THE GOLDEN GROVE.

A CHOICE MANUAL,

Containing

What is to be *Believed*, *Practiſed* and *Deſired* or *Prayed for*; the *Prayers* being fitted to the ſeveral Days of the Week.

ALSO

FESTIVAL HYMNS,

According to the Manner of the

ANCIENT CHURCH.

Compoſed for the uſe of the Devout, eſpecially of younger Perſons,

By *Jeremy Taylor*, D. D.

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TO THE

Pious and *Devout*

READER.

IN this ſad declenſion of Religion, the Seers, *who are appointed to be the Watchmen of the Church, cannot but obſerve that the Supplanters & Underminers are gone out and are digging down the foundations; and having deſtroy'd all publick forms of Eccleſiaſtical Government, diſcountenanc'd an excellent Liturgie, taken off the hinges of Unity, diſgrac'd the Articles of Religion, polluted publick Aſſemblies, taken away all cognizance of Schiſm, by mingling all Sects, and giving Countenance to that againſt which all power ought to ſtand upon their guard: There is now nothing left but that we take care that men be Chriſti-*

ans: For concerning the Ornament and advantages of Religion, we cannot make that provision we desire; Incertis de salute de gloria minime certandum. *For since they who have seen* Jerusalem *in prosperity, and have forgotten the order of the Morning & Evening Sacrifice, and the beauty of the Temple will be tempted to neglect so excellent a ministration, and their assembling themselves together for peace, and holy Offices, and be content with any thing that is brought to them, though it be but the husks and acorns of Prodigals and* Swine, *so they may enjoy their Lands and their Money with it*; *we must now take care that the young men, who were born in the Captivity, may be taught how to Worship the God of* Israel *after the manner of their fore-fathers, till it shall please God that Religion shall return into the Land, and dwell safely, and grow prosperously.*

But never did the excellency of Episcopal Government appear so demonstratively and conspicuously as now. Under their conduct and order we had a Church so united, so orderly, so govern'd, a Religion so setled, Articles so true, sufficient, & confess'd, Canons so prudent and so obey'd, Devotions

so

ſo regular and conſtant, Sacraments ſo adorn'd and miniſtred, Churches ſo beauteous and religious, Circumſtances of Religion ſo grave and prudent, ſo uſeful and apt for edification, that the enemies of our Church, who ſerve the Pope in all things, and Jeſus *Chriſt in ſome, who dare tranſgreſs an Inſtitution and Ordinance of Chriſt, but dare not break a Canon of the Pope, did deſpair of prevailing againſt Us and* Truth, *and knew no hopes but by ſetting their faces againſt us to deſtroy this Government, and then they knew they ſhould triumph without any enemy: ſo* Balaam *the Son of* Boſor *was ſent for, to curſe the People of the Lord, in hope that the Son of* Zippor *might prevail againſt them that had long proſpered under the Conduct of* Moſes *and* Aaron.

But now inſtead of this excellency of Condition and Conſtitution of Religion, the people are fallen under the Harrows and Saws of impertinent & ignorant Preachers, who think all Religion is a Sermon, and all Sermons ought to be Libels againſt Truth and old Governors, and expound Chapters that the meaning may never be underſtood, and pray, that they may be thought able to talk,

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but not to hold their peace, they casting not to obtain any thing but Wealth and Victory, Power and Plunder: and the People have reaped the fruits apt to grow upon such Crab-stocks; they grow idle and false, hypocrites and careless, they deny themselves nothing that is pleasant, they despise Religion, forget Government, and some never think of Heaven, and they that do, think to go thither in such paths which all the ages of the Church did give men warning of, lest they should that way go to the Devil.

But when men have try'd all that they can, it is to be supposed they will return to the excellency and advantages of the Christian Religion, as it is taught by the Church of England; *for by destroying it, no end can be serv'd but of Sin and Folly, Faction and Death eternal. For besides that no Church that is enemy to this, does worship God in that truth of propositions, in that unblameable and pious Liturgie, and in preaching the necessities of holy life, so much as the Church of* England *does; besides this (I say) it cannot be persecuted by any Governour that understands his own Interest, unless he be first abused by false Preachers, & then prefers his secret Opinion before his*

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publick Advantage. For no Church in the World is so great a friend to Loyalty and Obedience as she, and her Sisters of the same perswasion. They that hate Bishops have destroy'd Monarchy, and they that would erect an Ecclesiastical Monarchy must consequently subject the temporal to it; and both one and the other would be supream in Consciences: and they that govern there with an opinion that in all things they ought to be attended to, will let their Prince govern others, so long as he will be rul'd by them.

And certainly for a Prince to persecute the Protestant Religion, is as if a Physician should endeavour to destroy all Medicaments, and Fathers kill their Sons, and the Master of Ceremonies destroy all Formalities and Courtships, and as if the Pope should root out all the Ecclesiastick State. Nothing so combines with Government if it be of God's appointment, as the Religion of the Church of England, *because nothing does more adhere to the Word of God, and disregard the crafty advantages of the World. If any man shall not decline to try his Title by the Word of God, it is certain there is not in*

the

the world a better guard for it than the true Proteſtant Religion, as it is taught in our Church. But let things be as it pleaſe God; it is certain that in that day when Truth gets her Victory, in that day we ſhall prevail againſt all God's enemeis and ours, not in the purchaces and perquiſites of the world, but in the rewards and returns of Holineſs and Patience, and Faith and Charity; for by theſe we worſhip God, and againſt this Intereſt we cannot ſerve any thing elſe.

In the mean time we muſt by all means ſecure the foundation, and take care that Religion may be conveyed in all its material parts the ſame as it was, but by new and permitted inſtruments. For let us ſecure that our young men be good Chriſtians, it is eaſie to make them good Proteſtants, unleſs they be abus'd with prejudice, and ſuck venom with their milk; they cannot leave our Communion till they have reaſon to reprove our Doctrine.

There is therefore in the following pages a Compendium of what we are to Believe, *what* to Do, *and what* to Deſire. *It is indeed very little; but it is enough*

to

to begin with and will ſerve all perſons ſo long as they need milk, and not ſtrong meat. And he that hath given the following Aſſiſtances to thee, deſires to be even a door-keeper in God's Houſe, and to be a ſervant of the meaneſt of God's ſervants, and thinks it a worthy employment to teach the moſt ignorant, and make them to know Chriſt, though but in the firſt rudiments of a holy Inſtitution. This only he affirms, that there is a more ſolid comfort and material ſupport to a Chriſtian ſpirit in one article of Faith, in one period of the Lord's Prayer, in one Holy Leſſon, than in all the diſputes of impertinent people, who take more pains to prove there is a Purgatory, than to perſwade men to avoid Hell: And that a plain Catechiſm can more inſtruct a Soul, than the whole day's prate which ſome daily ſpit forth, to bid them get Chriſt, *and perſecute his Servants.*

Chriſtian Religion is admirable for its wiſdom, for its ſimplicity; and he that preſents the following Papers to thee, deſigns to teach thee as the Church was taught in the early days of the Apoſtles; to believe the Chriſtian Faith, and to underſtand

ſtand it; to repreſent plain Rules of good Life; to deſcribe eaſie Forms of Prayer; to bring into your Aſſemblies Hymns of Glorification and Thankſgiving, and Pſalms of Prayer. By theſe eaſy paths they lead Chriſt's little ones into the Fold of their great Biſhop: and if by this any ſervice be done to God, any miniſtery to the Soul of a Child or an ignorant Woman, it is hoped that God will accept it: and it is reward enough, if by my Miniſtry God will bring it to paſs that any Soul ſhall be inſtructed, and brought into that ſtate of good things, that it ſhall rejoyce for ever.

But do thou pray for him that deſires this to thee, and endeavours it,

Jer. Taylor.

CRE-

CREDENDA;

OR

What is to be Believed.

A SHORT
CATECHISM
For the Inſtitution of
Young Perſons in the
Chriſtian Religion.

Queſt. *IN what does true Religion conſiſt?*

Anſw. In the *knowledg of the one true God*, and, *whom he hath ſent, Jeſus Chriſt.* And in the worſhipping and ſerving them. John 17. 3. 1 John 2. 23.

Queſt. *What doſt thou believe concerning God?*

Anſw. 1. That there is a God:

Deut. 6. 2. Exod. 20. 2, 3. Rev. 1. 4. Pſal. 90. 2. 1 Tim. 1. 17. Gen. 1. 1. Exod. 20. 11. Heb. 3. 4. Iſai. 40. 12. Job 42. 2, 3. Pſal. 139. 1, &c. Pſal. 147. 5. Exod. 34. 6, 7. 1 Tim. 6. 1, 16. John 4. 24. 1 Kings 8. 27. Amos 3. 6. Pſal. 139. 1, 9. Acts 7. 48, 49. Pſa. 2. 4 & 103. 16. & 115. 3.

2. That he is one, 3. Eternal, 4. Almighty: 5. That he hath made all the world: 6. That he knows all things: 7. That he is a Spirit; not of any ſhape, or figure, or parts, or body: 8. That he is preſent in all places: 9. That his ſeat is in Heaven, and he governs all the world, ſo that nothing happens without his order and leave: 10. That he is the Fountain of Juſtice, 11. Of Mercy, 12. Of Bounty or Goodneſs: 13. That he is unalterably happy, and infinitely perfect: 14. That no evil can come near him: 15. And he is the Rewarder of them that diligently ſeek him.

Iſa. 11. 4, & 44. 6. Job 9. 4, &c. Deut. 32. 39. Gen. 18. 25 Deut. 32. 4. Exod. 34. 7. Pſal. 103. 8. & 25. 8. & 86. 5 Pſal 51. 2. Jam. 1. 17. Heb 11. 6.

Queſt. *What other myſtery is revealed concerning God?*

Anſw. That God being one in Nature, is alſo three in Perſon; expreſſed in Scripture by the names of [*Father*, *Son*, and *Holy Spirit*.] The firſt Perſon being known to us by the name of [*The Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt*.] The ſecond Per-

Matth. 28. 19. Joh. 14. 16, 26. & 15. 26. 1 Cor. 12. 4, 5, 6. 2 Cor. 13. 13.

Perſon is called [*The Son*, and *the Word of the Father.*] The Third is [*The Spirit and promiſe of the Father.*] And theſe are *Three* and *One* after a ſecret manner, which we muſt believe, but cannot underſtand. 1 John 5. 7. 1 John 1. 18. & 3. 16. Luke 24. 49. Acts 1. 4. & 3. 33.

Queſt. *What is this God to us?*

Anſw. He is our Creator and Father, and therefore he is our Lord; and we are his Creatures, his Sons, and his Servants. Coloſ. 1. 16. Acts 17. 24. 1 Cor. 8. 6. & 1 Cor, 6. 18. Gal. 1. 4. Phil. 2. 22. Dan. 2. 47. Zach. 4. 14. & 14. 9. Matt. 11. 25.

Queſt. *Wherefore did God create and make us?*

Anſw. That we might do him honour and ſervice, and receive from him infinite felicities. Pſal. 145. 10, 11. Acts 14. 15.

Queſt. *How did God make man?*

Anſw. By the power of his word out of the ſlime of the Earth, and he breathed into him the breath of life. Gen. 2. 7.

Queſt. *Was man good or bad when God made him?*

Anſw. Man was made pure and innocent. Eccleſ. 7. 29. Ecclus. 15. 14.

Queſt. *How then did man become ſinful and miſerable?*

Anſw. By liſtening to the whiſ- Gen. 2. *per tot.*

pers of a tempting ſpirit, and breaking an eaſie commandment which God gave him as the firſt tryal of his obedience.

Queſt. *What evils and changes followed this Sin?*

Rom. 5. 12. & 3. 23. & 6. 20. Eph. 2. 3.

Anſw. Adam, who was the firſt man and the firſt ſinner, did both for himſelf and his poſterity fall into the ſtate of death, of ſickneſs and misfortunes, and diſorder both of Body and Soul: we were thrown out of Paradiſe, and loſt our immortality.

Queſt *Was man left in theſe evils without Remedy?*

Gen. 3. 15. Gal. 4. 4. 1 Per. 1. 20. John 3. 16 Heb. 2. 14, 15, &c.

Anſw. No; but God, pitying his creature, promiſed, That of the ſeed of the Woman he would raiſe up a Saviour and Redeemer, who ſhould reſtore us to God's favour, and to the felicity which we loſt.

Queſt. *How did God perform this promiſe?*

1 John 8. 15, 18. Heb. 2. 9. & 16, 17, 18. Luke 1. 74, 75.

Anſw. By ſending *Jeſus* Chriſt to take upon him our nature, to die for our ſins, to become our Lord and the Author of holineſs, and life and ſalvation to mankind.

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Queſt. *Who is Jeſus Chriſt?* Iſai 9. 6.

Anſw. He is the Son of God, the Second Perſon of the holy Trinity, equal with the Father, true God without beginning of life or end of days. 1 Tim. 3 16. 1 John 5. 20. Iſai. 35. 4, 5. Joh. 1. 2. & 18. & Joh. 8 5, 8. Rev. 1. 8. Heb. 13. 8. & 1. 8. Phil. 2 6. Rom. 9. 5.

Queſt. *How then could he be our Redeemer, and the promiſed ſeed of the Woman?*

Anſw. The Son of God in the fulneſs of time, by the miracles of his Mercy, took upon him Humane nature, and united it after a wonderful manner to his Godhead; ſo that he was both *God* and *Man*. He was born of a Virgin, who conceived him not by any natural means, but by the power of the holy Ghoſt, and was called *Jeſus Chriſt*; and his Mother's name was *Mary*, of the ſeed of *Abraham*, of the Family of *David*. And all theſe things came to paſs when *Auguſtus Cæſar* was Lord of the Roman Empire. Gal. 4. 4. Rom. 1. 3. Acts 2. 30. &. 3. 32, & 3. 22. Heb. 1. 1. & 2. 11. Acts 13. 23, Deut. 18. 15. Matth 1. 18. Matth. 1. 21. Luke 2. 4, 5, &c.

Queſt. *How did Jeſus Chriſt work this promiſed Redemption for us?*

Anſw. By his holy and humble life, and his obedient dying a painful death for us upon the Croſs. Heb. 29. 10.

Queſt. *What benefits do we receive by the life and death of Jeſus Chriſt?*

Read the 3. & 4. & 5. Chapters to the Heb. Eph. 2. 13, 14, 15. Luk. 19. 27. & 24. 46, 47.

Anſw. We are inſtructed by his Doctrine, and encouraged by his excellent Example, we are reconciled to God by his death; He hath given us an excellent Law, and glorious promiſes, and himſelf hath received power to make good all thoſe promiſes to his Servants, and fearfully to deſtroy them that will not have him to reign over them.

Queſt. *What promiſes hath Jeſus Chriſt made us in the Goſpel?*

Matt. 6. 25, &c. Rom. 8. 28. John 13. 33. Acts 14. 22. 2 Cor. 1 4. Matt. 8. 11, 12. & 11. 20, 21. John 6. 44, 45. 2 Pet. 3. 4. Acts 2. 38. & 3. 19. Luk. 18. 7. Matth. 7. 7. Col. 2. 13. 1 Cor. 15. 54, 55, 57. Rev. 14. 13. 1 Cor. 15. 22.

Anſw. He hath promiſed to give us all that we need in this life, That every thing ſhall work together for our good; That he will be with us in tribulation and perſecution. He hath promiſed his Graces and his holy Spirit to enable us to do our duty; and if we make uſe of theſe Graces, he hath promiſed to give us more. He hath promiſed to forgive us our ſins; to hear our prayers; to take the ſting of Death from us; to keep our ſouls in ſafe cuſtody after death; and in his due time to raiſe 1 Cor. 6. 14. 2 Cor. 4. 14. John 6. 40.

Our

our Bodies from the Grave, and to join them to our Souls, and to give us eternal life, and joys that ſhall never ceaſe.

Queſt. *How is Jeſus Chriſt able to do all this for us?*

Anſw. When he had ſuffered death, and was buried three days, God raiſed him up again, and gave him all power in Heaven and Earth, made him head of the Church, Lord of men and Angels, and the Judge of the quick and dead. Mat. 28. 6, 18. Phil. 2. 9, &c. Heb. 2. 9. & 5, 6. & 1. 8. Tit. 2. 13, 14. Eph. 3. 14, 15, 20. 1 Cor. 11. 3. Eph. 5. 23. Col. 2. 10. Acts 10. 42. 2 Tim. 4. 1. & 8. 17, 31. 1 Pet. 4. 5.

Queſt. *By what means doth Jeſus Chriſt our Lord convey all theſe Bleſſings to us?*

Anſw. Jeſus Chriſt had three Offices, and in all he was *Mediator* between God and man; He is our Prophet, our Prieſt, and our King. 1 Tim. 2. 5. Heb. 8. c. & 9. 15. & 12. 24.

Queſt. *What was his Office as he was a Prophet?*

Anſw. This Office he finiſhed on earth; beginning when he was thirty years old to preach the Goſpel of the Kingdom, Faith and Repentance. John 1. 18. Luke 3. 23. John 5. 43. Luke 24. 19. Acts 3. 23, &c.

Queſt. *When began his Prieſtly Office? and wherein does it conſiſt?*

Heb. 5. 5, 7, 8, &c. Heb. 7. *per tot.* *Anſw.* It began at his death; for he was himſelf the Prieſt and the Sacrifice, offering himſelf upon the Altar of the Croſs for the ſins of all the World.

Queſt. *Did his Prieſtly Office then ceaſe?*

Heb. 7. 24, 25. *Anſw.* No: *He is a Prieſt for ever*, that is, unto the end of the world, and repreſents the ſame Sacrifice to God in Heaven, interceding and praying continually for us in the virtue of that ſacrifice, by which he obtains relief of all our neceſſities.

Queſt. *What doth Chriſt in Heaven pray for on our behalf?*

Rom. 8. 33, 34, 1 John 2. 1. Heb. 4. 14, 15, 16. *Anſw.* That our ſins may be pardoned, our infirmities pitied, our neceſſities relieved, our perſons defended, our temptations overcome, that we may be reconciled to God, and be ſaved.

Queſt. *How is Jeſus Chriſt alſo our King?*

Anſw. When he aroſe from his Grave, and had for forty days together

ther converſed with his Diſciples, *ſhewing himſelf alive by many infallible tokens*, he aſcended into Heaven, and there ſits at the right hand of God, all things being made ſubject to him, Angels, and Men, and Devils, Heaven and Earth, the Elements and all the Creatures; and over all he reigns, comforting and defending his Elect, ſubduing the power of the Devil, taking out the ſting of Death, and making all to ſerve the Glory of God, and to turn to the good of his Elect. Heb. 1. 3. 8. Pſal. 110. 1. 1 Theſſ. 1. 10. Acts 1. 3. Luke 24. 51. & 1. 33. 1 Pet. 3. 23.

Queſt. *How long muſt his Kingdom laſt?*

Anſw. Till Chriſt hath brought all his enemies under his feet, that is, till the Day of Judgment: in which Day ſhall be performed the greateſt acts of his Kingly power; for then he ſhall quite conquer Death, triumph over the Devils, throw his enemies into Hell-fire, and carry all his Elect to never-ceaſing Glories; and then he ſhall deliver up the Kingdom to his Father, that God may be all in all. Pſal. 110. 1. 1 Cor. 15. 24, 25, 28. Mat. 25. 34. 41.

Queſt. *How is Chriſt a Mediator in all theſe Offices?*

Anſw. A *Mediator* ſignifies one that ſtands between God and us. As Chriſt is a *Prophet*, ſo he taught us his Father's will, and ties us to obedience: As he is a *Prieſt*, he is our *Redeemer*, having paid a price for us even his moſt precious blood, and our *Advocate*, pleading for us, and mediating our Pardon and Salvation: As he is a *King*, ſo he is our Lord, our Patron, and our Judge; yet it is the Kingdom of a Mediator, that is, in order to the world to come, but then to determine and end. And in all theſe he hath made a *Covenant* between God and us of an everlaſting intereſt.

Gal. 3. 20.

Heb. 8. 6. & 9. 15. & 12. 24.

1 Cor. 15. 24.

Queſt. *What is the Covenant which Jeſus Chriſt our Mediator hath made between God and us?*

Anſw. That God will write his Laws in our hearts, and will pardon us and defend us, and raiſe us up again at the laſt day, and give us an inheritance in his Kingdom.

Heb. 8. 6. & 10. 13. Heb. 10. 16. & 12. 24. Jer. 31. 31.

Queſt. *To what Conditions hath he bound us on our parts?*

Anſw. Faith and Repentance.

Mark. 16. 16. Matth. 4. 17 Acts 8. 37. & 2. 13.

Queſt. *When do we enter into this Covenant?* *Anſw.*

Anſw. In our Baptiſm, and at our ripe years, when we underſtand the ſecrets of the kingdom of Chriſt, and undertake willingly what in our names was undertaken for us in our infancy. Acts 2. 38. 41. & 3. 19.

Queſt. *What is the Covenant of Faith which we enter into in Baptiſm?*

Anſw. We promiſe to believe, that *Jeſus* Chriſt is the *Meſſias*, or he that was to come into the world; That he is the Anointed of the Lord, or the *Lord's Chriſt*; That he is the Son of God, and the Son of the Virgin *Mary*; That he is God incarnate, or God *manifeſted in the fleſh*; That he is the Mediator between God and Man; That he dyed for us upon the Croſs, and roſe again the third Day, and aſcended into Heaven, and ſhall be there till the day of Judgment; that then he ſhall be our Judge; in the mean time he is the King of the World, and head of the Church. 1 John 2. 9. Matth. 16. 16. & 1. 18. 1 Tim 3. 16. Rom. 14. 9. Acts 1. 9. & 3. 21. & 17. 31. Rev. 1. 5. & 17. 14.

Queſt. *What is the Covenant of Repentance?*

Anſw.

Luke 1. 75. Tit. 2. 11, 12. 1 Pet. 2. 1, 2, 3. 2 Pet. 1. 4, &c. Heb. 12. 1, 2.

Answ. We promise to leave all our sins, and with a hearty and sincere endeavour to give up our will and affections to Christ, and do what he hath commanded (according to our power and weakness.)

Quest. *How if we fail of this Promise, through infirmity, and commit sin.*

1 John 2. 12. & 5. 16, 17. Gal. 6. 1. & 5. 24, 25.

Answ. Still we are within the Covenant of Repentance, that is, within the promise of pardon, and possibility of returning from dead works and mortifying our lusts: and though this be done after the manner of men, that is, in weakness, and with some failings; yet our endeavour must be hearty and constant and diligent, and our watchfulness and prayers for pardon must be lasting and persevering.

Quest. *What Ministeries hath Christ appointed to help us in this Duty?*

Rom. 10. 15. Eph. 2. 20. & 4. 11, 12. 1 Cor. 12. 28. 2 Cor. 5. 20. Matth. 28. 20.

Answ. The Ministery of the Word and Sacraments, which he will accompany with his Grace and his Spirit.

Quest. *What is a Sacrament?*

Answ.

Answ. An outward Ceremony ordained by Christ, to be a sign and a means of conveying his grace unto us.

Quest. *How many Sacraments are ordained by Christ?*

Answ. Two: Baptism, and the Supper of our Lord. Mat. 28. 19,& 26. 26.

Quest. *What is Baptism?* 1 Cor. 11. 21.

Answ. An outward washing of the Body in Water, in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; in which we are buried with Christ in his death after a Sacramental manner, and are made partakers of Christ's Death and of his Resurrection, teaching us, that we should rise from the death of Sin to the life of Righteousness. Gal. 3. 27.——Eph. 5. 26. 1 Cor. 12. 23.---Col. 2. 11, 12. Rom. 6. 4.——Acts 2. 38. John 3. 5.——Acts 22. 16. Tit. 3. 5.——Heb. 10. 22. 1 Pet. 3. 21.

Quest. *What is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper?*

Answ. A Ceremony of eating Bread and drinking Wine, being blessed and consecrated by God's Minister in publick Assemblies, in remembrance of Christ's Death and Passion. 1 Cor. 11. 23, 24, 25. Matth. 26. 26. Mark 14. 22. Luke 22. 19.

Quest.

Queſt. *What benefits are done unto us by this Sacrament?*

1 Cor. 10. 16. Matth. 26. 28. *Anſw.* Our Souls are nouriſhed by the Body and Blood of Chriſt, our Bodies are ſealed to a Bleſſed Reſurrection and to Immortality; our infirmities are ſtrengthen'd, our Graces encreaſed, our Pardon made more certain: and when we preſent our ſelves to God, having received Chriſt's Body within us, we are ſure to be accepted, and all the good prayers we make to God for our ſelves and others are ſure to be heard.

Queſt. *Who are fit to receive this Sacrament?*

1 Cor. 11. 27, 28, 29. *Anſw.* None but baptized Chriſtians, and ſuch as repent of their Sins, and heartily purpoſe to lead a good life.

Queſt. *What other Miniſteries hath Chriſt ordained in his Church to help us, and to bring ſo many great purpoſes to paſs?*

2 Cor. 5. 18. Acts 20. 28. 1 Pet. 5. 2. Gal. 1. 16. James 5. 14. *Anſw. Jeſus* Chriſt hath appointed Miniſters and Ambaſſadors of his own, to preach his word to us, to pray for us, to exhort and to reprove,

prove, to comfort and inſtruct, to reſtore and reconcile us, if we be overtaken in a fault, to viſit the ſick, to ſeparate the vile from the precious, to adminiſter the Sacraments, and to watch for the good of our Souls.

Queſt. *What are we tyed to perform towards them?*

Anſw. To pay them honour and maintenance, to obey them in all things according to the Goſpel, and to order our ſelves ſo that they may give account of our Souls with cheerfulneſs and joy. Gal. 6. 6. 1 Tim. 5. 17. Heb. 13. 17.

Queſt. *Which are the Commandments and Laws of Jeſus Chriſt?*

Anſw. They are many, but eaſy; holy, but very pleaſant to all good minds, to ſuch as deſire to live well in this world and in the world to come: and they are ſet down in the Sermons of our Bleſſed Lord and of his Apoſtles: but eſpecially in the 5,6,7. Chapters of S. *Matthew.* Read alſo Rom. 12. Eph. 5. & 9. Chapters. 1 Theſſ. 5.

AN

AN EXPOSITION OF The Apoſtles *Creed.*

I Believe in God,

Luke 6. 35. Deut. 10. 17. & 6. 4. Mar. 12. 29, 32. 1 Cor. 8. 4.

I Believe that there is a God, who is one, true, ſupreme and alone, infinitely wiſe, juſt, good, free, eternal, immenſe and bleſſed, and in him alone we are to put our truſt.

John 17. 3. 1 Theſſ. 1. 9. Pſal. 90. 2. & 93. 2. & 77. 13. & 95. 3. & 147. 5. Rom. 16. 27. 1 Tim. 1. 17. 2 Chron. 19. 7. Pſal. 119. 137. 1 Chron. 16. 34. Pſal. 34. 8. & 135. 3, 5. Exod. 33. 19. 1 Tim. 1. 11.

The Father Almighty,

John 8. 38. Rom. 8. 29. 32.

I believe that he is (1.) *the Father* of our Lord *Jeſus* Chriſt, and (2.) of all that believe in him, whom he hath begotten by his Word,

Word, and adopted to the inheritance of Sons: and becauſe he is our *Father*; he will do us all that good to which we are created and deſigned by Grace; and becauſe he is *Almighty*, he is able to perform it all; and therefore we may ſafely believe in him and relie upon him. 1 Cor. 8. 6. & 15. 24. Matth. 24. 36. Heb. 2. 11. 1 Pet. 1. 23. Gal. 4. 5.

Maker of Heaven and Earth.

He made the Sun and the Moon, the Stars and all the Regions of Glory; he made the Air, the Earth and the Water, and all that live in them; he made Angels and Men: and he who made them does, and he only can preſerve them in the ſame being, and thruſt them forwards to a better. He that preſerves them does alſo govern them, and intends they ſhould miniſter to his Glory: and therefore we are to do worſhip and obedience to him in all that we can, and that he hath commanded. Iſai. 65. 17. & 66. 22. Acts 4. 24. Pſal. 36. 7, 8. Matth. 6 26. & 10. 29, 30. Rev. 14. 7. Matth. 4. 10.

And in Jeſus Chriſt,

I alſo believe in *Jeſus* Chriſt, who is, and is called a Saviour, and the Anointed Matth. 1. 21. John 3. 34.

Anointed of the Lord, promiſed to
Acts 10. 38. & 3. 22, 23. the Patriarchs, whom God *anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power*, to become the *Great Prophet*, and declarer of his Father's Will to all the world, telling us how God will be worſhipped and ſerved: he is
Heb. 12. 24. & 1. 8. & 6. 16. 21. anointed to be the *Mediator* of the New Covenant, and our *High-Prieſt*, reconciling us to his Father by the Sacrifice of himſelf; and to
Rev. 1. 5. be the *Great King* of all the world.
Acts 11. 26. & 26. 28. And by this Article we are *Chriſtians*, who ſerve and worſhip God
1 Pet. 4. 19. the Father through Jeſus Chriſt.

His only Son,

Luke 1. 32. *Jeſus* Chriſt is the Son of God,
Rom. 1. 3, 4. he alone, of him alone. For God by
1 Joh. 5. 9. &c. his Holy Spirit cauſed him to be
Heb. 1. 5. born of a *Virgin*; by his power he
John 1. 11. raiſed him from the dead, and gave
Col. 1. 17, 28. him a new Birth or being in the Body: he gave him all power, and all excellency. And beyond all this, he
Heb. 1 3. is *the expreſs Image of his perſon, the*
John. 5. 19. *brightneſs of his glory*, equal to God,
Phil. 2. 6. *beloved before the beginning of the*
John 3. 25. *world*, of a nature perfectly Divine,
Col. 2. 9, 10. *very*
John 17. 24.

very God by eſſence, and *very Man*, by aſſumption: as *God*, all one in nature with the Father; and as *Man*, one Perſon in himſelf.

Our Lord;

Jeſus Chriſt, God's only Son, is the Heir of all things and perſons in his Father's houſe: All Angels and Men are his Servants, and all the Creatures obey him. We are to believe in him, and by Faith in him only and in his name we ſhall be ſaved.

Matth. 28. 18. Acts 2. 36. Pſal. 2. 6, 7, &c. 1 Cor. 8. 6. Heb. 1. 6. 1 Pet. 1. 21.

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghoſt,

I believe that *Jeſus* Chriſt was not begotten of a Man, nor born by natural means, but that a Divine Power from God [God's Holy Spirit] did overſhadow the Virgin-Mother of Chriſt, and made her in a wonderful manner to conceive *Jeſus* in her womb; and by this his admirable manner of being conceived he was the Son of God alone, and no Man was his Father.

Luke 1. 35. Gal. 4. 4. Luke 1. 32.

Born

Born of the Virgin Mary,

Luke 1. 26,&c. Matth. 1. 18. Though God was his Father, and he begat him by the power of the Holy Ghoſt, and cauſed him miraculouſly to begin in the womb of his Mother; yet from her he alſo derived his humane Nature, and by his Mother he was of the Family of King *David*, and called *the Son of Man*; his Mother being a holy perſon, not choſen to this great honour for her wealth or beauty, but by the good will of God, and becauſe ſhe Luke 1. 48. was of rare exemplar modeſty and humility: and ſhe received the ho- Matth. 1. 25. nour of being a Mother to the Son of God, and ever a Virgin, and all generations ſhall call her bleſſed.

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

After that *Jeſus* paſſed through the ſtate of Infancy and Childhood, Luke 2. 51. being ſubject to his Parents, and working in an humble Trade to ſerve his own and his Mother's needs,

needs, he grew to the eſtate of a man: he began to preach at the age of thirty years, and having for about three years and an half preached the Goſpel, and taught us his Father's will, having ſpoken the Goſpel of his Kingdom, and revealed to us the ſecrets *of Eternal life*, and *Reſurrection of the Dead*, *Regeneration*, and *Renewing by the Holy Spirit*, *perfect Remiſſion of ſins*, and *Eternal Judgment*; at laſt, that he might reconcile the world to his Father, he became a Sacrifice for all our ſins, and ſuffered himſelf to be taken by the malicious Jews, and put to a painful and ſhameful death; they being envious at him for the number of his Diſciples, and the reputation of his perſon, the innocence of his life, the mightineſs of his Miracles, and the power of his Doctrine: and this Death he ſuffered when *Pontius Pilate* was Governour of *Judea*. •

Luke 3. 23.

John 3. 4, &c. Acts 13. 39. Mat. 25. 31, 32.

Luke 22. 63, &c. John 18. 12. &c. Mat. 26. & 27.

Was

Was crucified,

Jesus Christ being taken by the Rulers of the Jews, bound and derided, buffetted and spit upon, accused weakly, & persecuted violently; at last, wanting matter & pretences to condemn him, they asked him of his person and office; and because he affirmed that great Truth, which all the world of good men long'd for, that he was the *Messias*, and design'd to *sit on the right hand of the Majesty on high*, they resolved to call it *Blasphemy*, and delivered him over to *Pilate*, and by importunity and threats forced him, against his Conscience, to give him up to be scourged, and then to be Crucified. The Souldiers therefore mocking him with a Robe and a Reed, and pressing a Crown of thorns upon his head, led him to the place of his death, compelling him to bear his Cross, to which they presently nail'd him; on which for three hours he hanged in extreme torture, being a sad spectacle of the most afflicted and the most innocent person of the whole world. *Dead,*

Matth. 27.
Mark. 15.
Luke 23.
John 19.

Dead,

When the Holy *Jesus* was wearied with tortures, and he knew all things were now fulfilled, and his Father's wrath appeased towards Mankind, his Father pitying his innocent Son, groaning under such intolerable miseries, hastned his Death; and *Jesus* commending his spirit into the hands of his Father, cried with a loud voice, bowed his head, and died, and by his death sealed all the Doctrines and Revelations which he first taught the world, and then confirmed by his Blood. He was consecrated *our merciful High Priest*, and by a feeling of our miseries and temptations, became *able to help them that are tempted*; and for these his sufferings was exalted to the highest Throne, and seat of the right hand of God; and hath shewn, that to Heaven there is no surer way than suffering for his Name; and hath taught us willingly to suffer for his sake, what himself hath already suffered for ours. He reconciled us to God by his Death, led

Ibidem. John 18. 30. Phil. 2. 8. Col. 1. 20. Isai. 53. 10. Heb. 7. 25. & 9. 12. & 7. 18. Luke 23. 46. Job 10. 17, 18. & 12. 32. & 11. 51. Eph. 2. 13, 14.

led us to God, drew us to himself
Heb. 2. 10. redeemed us from all iniquity, pur
chased us for his Father, and so
Col. 1. 21, 22. ever made us his servants and re
deemed ones, that we being dea
Tit. 2. 14. unto sin, might live unto God
And this Death, being so highly be
John 6. 51. neficial to us, he hath appointe
means to apply to us, and to re
present to God for us in the Hol
Sacrament of his last Supper. An
1 Pet. 2. 24,& upon all these considerations, tha
4. 13. Cross which was a smart and sham
to our Lord, is honour to us, and a
2 Tim. 2. 11. it turned to his Glory, so also t
Gal. 6. 14. our spiritual advantages.

And buried.

That he might suffer every thin
Matth. 27. of humane nature, he was by th
Mark 15. care of his Friends and Disciple
by the leave of *Pilate*, taken fro
the Cross, and embalmed, (as th
manner of the Jews was to bury
and wrap'd in linnen, and buried i
a new grave hewn out of a Roc
And this was the last and lowe
step of his Humiliation.

He descended into Hell,

That is, He went down *into the lower parts of the earth*, (as himself called it) into the heart of the earth; by which phrase the Scripture understands the state of Separation, or of Souls severed from their Bodies. By this his descending to the land of darkness, where all things are forgotten, he sanctified the state of Death and Separation, that none of his servants might ever after fear the jaws of Death and Hell; whither he went, not to suffer torment, (because he finished all that upon the Cross) but to triumph over the gates of Hell, to verifie his Death, and the event of his sufferings, and to break the iron bars of those lower prisons, that they may open and shut hereafter only at his command.

Eph. 4. 9.
Matth. 12. 40. Acts 2. 27.
Hos. 13. 14.
1 Cor. 15. 54. &c.
Rev. 20. 13, 14.
Matth. 16. 18.
Rev. 1. 17, 18.

The third day he rose again from the Dead.

After our Lord *Jesus* had abode in the grave the remaining part of

Mark. 16. 1.
Acts 10. 40.

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Eph. 4. 9.
Matth. 12. 40. Acts 2. 27.
Hoſ. 13. 14.
1 Cor. 15. 54. &c.
Rev. 20. 13, 14.
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The third day he roſe again from the Dead.

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Mark. 16. 1.
Acts 10. 40.

the day of his Paſſion, and all the next day, early in the morning upon the third day, by the power of God, he was raiſed from Death and Hell to Light and Life, never to return to death any more, and is become the firſt-born from the dead, the firſt-fruits of them that ſlept: and although he was *put to death in the fleſh*, yet now, *being quickned in the Spirit, he lives for ever.* And as we all die in *Adam*, ſo in Chriſt we all ſhall be made alive; but every man in his own order: Chriſt is the firſt; and we, if we follow him in the Regeneration, ſhall alſo follow him in the Reſurrection.

Rom. 14. 9.
Acts 5. 30, &c.
Col. 1. 18.
Matth. 28. 1.
1 Pet. 3. 18. & 1. 3.
Eph. 1. 17.
1 Cor. 15. 20, &c.

He aſcended into Heaven.

When our deareſt Lord was riſen from the Grave, he converſed with his Diſciples for forty days together, often ſhewing himſelf alive by infallible proofs, and once to five hundred of his Diſciples at once appearing. Having ſpoken to them fully concerning the affairs of the Kingdom, and the Promiſe of the

Luk. 24. 45, 50.
Matth. 21. 17.
Joh. 20. & 21.
Acts 1. 9.

Fa

Father; leaving them ſome few things in charge for the preſent, he ſolemnly gave them his Bleſſing, and in the preſence of his Apoſtles was taken up into Heaven by a bright Cloud and the Miniſtry of Angels, being gone before us, to prepare a place for us above all Heavens, in the preſence of his Father, and at the foot of the Throne of God. From which glorious preſence we cannot be kept by the change of Death and the powers of the Grave, nor the Depth of Hell, nor the height of Heaven; but Chriſt being lifted up ſhall draw all his Servants unto him.

1 Cor. 15. 6, 45. 47.

Heb. 6. 19.

Rom 8. 38, 39.

1 John 3. 2.

And ſitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

I believe that *Jeſus* Chriſt ſitteth in Heaven above all Principalities and powers, being exalted above every Name that is named in Heaven and Earth, that is above every creature above and below, all things being put under his feet. That he is

Phil. 2. 8, 9, &c.

Eph. 1. 17, 22.

always in the presence of his Father, interceding for us, and governs all things in Heaven and Earth, that
Rom. 8. 34. Heb. 7. 27. 2 Pet. 1. 4. he may defend his Church, and adorn her with his Spirit, and procure and effect her eternal Salvation. There he sits and reigns as King
Heb. 12. 2. and intercedes as our High-Priest He is a Minister of the Sanctuary and of the true *Tabernacle which God made, and not man, the Author and Finisher of our Faith, the Captain of our Confession*, the great Apostle of our Religion, *the Great Bishop of our Souls*, the Head of the Church and the Lord of Heaven and Earth
1 Pet. 1. 20, 21. Heb. 1. 6. And therefore to him we are to pay Divine Worship, Service and Obedience; and we must believe in him and in God by him, and rely entirely on the mercies of God through *Jesus* Christ.

From thence he shall come

In the Clouds shining, and adorned with the glory of his Father
John 14. 3. Matth. 24. 30. attended by millions of bright Angels, with the voice of an Arch-angel, and a shout of all the heavenly Army

Army, the Trump of God; and every eye shall see him, and they that pierced his hands and his feet shall behold his Majesty, his Terror, and his Glory: and all the families of the earth shall tremble at his presence, and the powers of Heaven shall be shaken, and the whole earth and sea shall be broken in pieces and confusion; for then he shall come to put an end to this world, and

1 Thess. 4. 16. Rev. 1. 7. Acts 1. 11. 2 Tim. 4. 1.

To Judge the Quick and the Dead.

For the Father judgeth no man, but hath given all judgment to his Son. And at this day of Judgment the Lord *Jesus* shall sit in the Air in a Glorious Throne; and the Angels having gathered together God's Elect from the four corners of the world, all the kindreds of the earth being brought before the Judgment-seat, shall have the Records of their Conscience laid open, that is, all that ever they thought, or spake, or did, shall be brought to their memory, to convince the wicked

John 5. 22, 23. 1 Thess. 4. 16, 17. Matth. 25. 32. Acts 10. 24.

of the Juſtice of the Judge in paſſing the fearful Sentence upon them, and glorify the mercies of God towards his *Redeemed ones*: and then the righteous Judge ſhall condemn the wicked to the portion
Mat. 25.34,&c. of Devils for ever, to a ſtate of torments, the ſecond, and eternal, and intolerable death; and the godly, being placed on his right hand, ſhall hear the bleſſed Sentence of abſolution, and ſhall be led by Chriſt to the participation of the glories of his Father's Kingdom, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

I believe in the Holy Ghoſt [or] *the Holy Spirit,*

Who is the third Perſon of the holy, undivided, ever-bleſſed Trinity, which I worſhip and adore and admire, but look upon with wonder, and am not in a capacity to underſtand. I believe that the Holy Spirit into whoſe name, as of the Father and the Son, I
Matt. 28. 19. was baptized, is the heavenly Author,

thor, the Captain, the Teacher, and the Witneſs of all the Truths of the Goſpel: that as the Father ſent the Son, ſo the ſon from heaven ſent the holy ſpirit to lead the Church into all truth, to aſſiſt us in all Temptations, and to help us in the purchaſe of all Vertue. This Holy *Spirit proceeds from the Father*, and our Lord *Jeſus* received him from his Father, and ſent him into the world; who receiving the things of Chriſt and declaring the ſame excellent Doctrines, ſpeaks whatſoever he hath heard from him; and inſtructed the Apoſtles, and builds the Church; and produces Faith, and confirms our Hope, and increaſes Charity. And this Holy Spirit our bleſſed Lord hath left with his Church for ever, by which all the ſervants of God are enabled to do all things neceſſary to Salvation, which by the force of Nature they cannot do: and we ſpeak by the Spirit, and work by the Spirit, when by his aſſiſtances any ways imparted to us we ſpeak or do any

John 15. 26. Acts 15. 32. 16. 13. —— & 3. 33. 6. 45. —— 24. 7. 16, 17. —— 13. 5. 37. 1, 2, 3. —— 20. 28.

Luke 12. 12. John 17. 37. 14. 16. 16. 13, 8.

Matt. 10. 8, 9. Eph. 1. 17. & 3. 16.

1 Cor. 2. 10. 11, 12. Rom. 8. 14, 15, 16. Rom. 14. 17. & 15. 13, 19.

thing of our duty. He it is who en-
1 Theſſ. 1. 6. lightens our Underſtanding, ſanctifies our Will, orders and commands our affections; he comforts our ſorrows, ſupports our ſpirits in trouble, and enables us by Promiſes, and Confidences, and Gifts, to ſuffer for the Lord *Jeſus* and the Goſpel. And all theſe things God the Father does for us by his Son, and the Son by the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit by all means within and without, which are operative upon and proportionable to the nature of reaſonable creatures. This is he who works Miracles, gives the gifts of Prophecy & of Interpretation, that teaches us what and how to pray, that gives us Zeal and holy Deſires; who ſanctifies Children in Baptiſm, and confirms them with his grace in Confirmation, and reproves the world, and conſecrates Biſhops and all the Miniſters of the Goſpel, and abſolves the Penitent, and Bleſſes the Obedient, and comforts the Sick, and excommunicates the Refractory, and makes interceſſion for the Saints: that is, the Church and

and thoſe whom he hath Bleſſed, appointed and ſanctified to theſe purpoſes, do all theſe Miniſteries by his authority and his Commandment and his Aids. This is he that *teſtifies to our Spirits that we are the Sons of God*, and that makes us to cry, *Abba, Father*; that is, who inſpires into us ſuch humble confidences of our being accepted in our hearty and conſtant endeavours to pleaſe God, that we can with chearfulneſs and joy call God our Father, and expect and hope for the portion of Sons both here and hereafter, and in the certainty of this hope, to work out our Salvation with fear and reverence, with trembling and joy, with diſtruſt of our ſelves and mighty confidence in God. By this holy and ever-bleſſed Spirit ſeveral perſons in the Church, and every man in his proportion, receives the gifts of Wiſdom, and Utterance, and Knowledge, and Interpretation, and Prophecie, and Healing, and Government, and diſcerning of Spirits, and Faith, and Tongues, and whatſoever

ſoever can be neceſſary for the Church in ſeveral ages and periods, for her beginning, for her continuance, for her in proſperity, and for her in perſecution. This is the great
Luke 24. 49. & 4. 18. Acts 2. 33, 38. *Promiſe of the Father*, and it is the *gift of God*, which he will give to all them that ask him, and who live piouſly and chaſtly, and are perſons fit to entertain ſo Divine a Grace. This Holy Spirit God gives to ſome more, to ſome leſs according as they are capable. They
Eph. 4. 7. 39. 1 Cor. 3. 16. Eph. 1. 13. *who obey his Motions*, and love his preſence, and improve his Gifts, ſhall have him yet more abundantly: but they that *grieve the Holy*
Acts 7. 51. *Spirit* ſhall loſe that which they have; and they that *extinguiſh him* belong not to Chriſt, but are in the ſtate of reprobation; and
Rom. 1. 14. they that *blaſpheme* this holy Spirit, and call him the ſpirit of the Devil,
2 Theſſ. 5. 19. or the Spirit of errour, or folly, or do malicious deſpites to him, that is, they who on purpoſe, conſidering and chuſing, do him hurt by word or by deed, (ſo far as lies in them)
Mark 3. 29. ſhall for ever be ſeparated from the

pre-

preſence of God and of Chriſt, and ſhall never be forgiven in this world nor in the world to come. Laſtly, this Holy Spirit ſeals us to the day of Redemption; that is, God gives us his Holy Spirit as a teſtimony that he will raiſe us again at the laſt day, and give us a portion in the glories of his Kingdom, in the inheritance of our Lord *Jeſus*. 2 Cor. 1. 22. & 5. 5.

The holy Catholick Church.

I believe that there is and ought to be a viſible company of men profeſſing the ſervice and diſcipline, that is, the Religion of the Goſpel, who agree together in the Belief of all the Truths of God revealed by *Jeſus* Chriſt, and in confeſſion of the Articles of this Creed, and agree together in praying and praiſing God through *Jeſus* Chriſt, to read and hear the Scriptures read and expounded, to provoke each other to love and to good works, to advance the honour of Chriſt, and to propagate his Faith and Worſhip. I believe 1 Tim. 3. 15. Eph. 3. 21. Heb. 2. 12. 10. 24.

ſoever can be neceſſary for the Church in ſeveral ages and periods, for her beginning, for her continuance, for her in proſperity, and for her in perſecution. This is the great
Luke 24. 49. & Acts 2. 33, 38. 4. 18. *Promiſe of the Father*, and it is the *gift of God*, which he will give to all them that ask him, and who live piouſly and chaſtly, and are perſons fit to entertain ſo Divine a Grace. This Holy Spirit God gives to ſome more, to ſome leſs according as they are capable. They
Eph. 4. 7. 39. 1 Cor. 3. 16. Eph. 1. 13. *who obey his Motions*, and love his preſence, and improve his Gifts, ſhall have him yet more abundantly: but they that *grieve the Holy*
Acts 7. 51. *Spirit* ſhall loſe that which they have; and they that *extinguiſh him* belong not to Chriſt, but are in the ſtate of reprobation; and
Rom. 1. 14. they that *blaſpheme* this holy Spirit, and call him the ſpirit of the Devil,
2 Theſſ. 5. 19. or the Spirit of errour, or folly, or do malicious deſpites to him, that is, they who on purpoſe, conſidering and chuſing, do him hurt by word or by deed, (ſo far as lies in them)
Mark 3. 29. ſhall for ever be ſeparated from the pre-

preſence of God and of Chriſt, and ſhall never be forgiven in this world nor in the world to come. Laſtly, this Holy Spirit ſeals us to the day of Redemption; that is, God gives us his Holy Spirit as a teſtimony that he will raiſe us again at the laſt day, and give us a portion in the glories of his Kingdom, in the inheritance of our Lord *Jeſus*. 2 Cor. 1. 22. & 5. 5.

The holy Catholick Church.

I believe that there is and ought to be a viſible company of men profeſſing the ſervice and diſcipline, that is, the Religion of the Goſpel, who agree together in the Belief of all the Truths of God revealed by *Jeſus* Chriſt, and in confeſſion of the Articles of this Creed, and agree together in praying and praiſing God through *Jeſus* Chriſt, to read and hear the Scriptures read and expounded, to provoke each other to love and to good works, to advance the honour of Chriſt, and to propagate his Faith and Worſhip. I believe 1 Tim. 3. 15. Eph. 3. 21. Heb. 2. 12. 10. 24.

1 Cor. 14. 26, &c. lieve this to be a *Holy Church*, *Spiritual*, and not *Civil* and Secular, but ſanctified by their Profeſſion, Mat. 12. 17, 18. and the ſolemn *Rites* of it, profeſſing holineſs, and ſeparating from the evil manners of heathens and wicked perſons, by their laws and inſtitutions. Acts 12. 5. 1 Cor. 1. And this *Church* is *Catholick*; that is, it is not confined to the Nation of the Jews, as was the old Religion, but it is gathered out of all Nations, and is not of a differing Faith in differing places, but always did, doth, and ever ſhall profeſs the Gal. 1. 8, 9. Faith which the Apoſtles preach'd, and which is contained in this Creed; which whoſoever believes Col. 2. 8, 9. is a *Catholick* and a *Chriſtian*, and he Heb. 13. 8, 9. that believes not is neither. This *Catholick Church* I believe, that is, I believe whatſoever all good Chriſtians in all Ages and in all places did confeſs to be the Catholick and Apoſtolick Faith.

The Communion of Saints.

That is, the Communion of all *Chriſtians*; becauſe by reaſon of their

their holy Faith they are called *Saints* in Scripture, as being begotten by God into a lively Faith, and cleanſed by Believing: and by this Faith, and the Profeſſion of a holy life in obedience to *Jeſus* Chriſt, they are ſeparated from the world, called to the knowledge of the Truth, juſtified before God, and indued with the holy Spirit of Grace, foreknown from the beginning of the world, and predeſtinated by God to be made conformable to the image of his Son, here in holineſs of life, hereafter in a life of glory; and they who are *Saints* in their belief and profeſſion muſt be ſo alſo in their practice and converſation, that ſo they may *make their calling and election ſure*, leſt they be Saints only in name and title, in their profeſſion and inſtitution, and not in manners and holineſs of living; that is, leſt they be ſo before men, and not before God. I believe that all people who deſire the benefit of the Goſpel are bound to have a fellowſhip and ſociety with theſe *Saints*, and communicate with them in

Acts 26. 10. & 9. 12, 32. 1 Cor. 6. 11. & 1, 2. Matth. 22. 14. 1 Pet. 1. 2, 14, 15, 16. 2 Pet. 3. 11. Matt. 18. 17, 18.

Heb. 10. 25. in their holy things, in their *Faith*, and in their *Hope*, and in their *Sacraments*, and in their *Prayers*, and 1 Cor. 11. 23, &c. in their *Publick Assemblies*, and in their *Government*: and must do to them all the Acts of *Charity* and mutual help which they can and are required to: and without this Communion of Saints, and a conjunction with them who believe in God through *Jesus* Christ, there is no Salvation to be expected; which Communion must be kept in *inward things* always and in all persons, and testified by *outward acts* always, when it is possible, and may be done upon just and holy conditions.

Eph. 4. 13. 5, 6. 7. 21. 6. 18. Phil. 2. 4. &. 1. 27. Rom. 16. 16, 17. 1 John 3. 18. 1 Pet. 1. 22.

The Forgiveness of Sins.

I believe that all the sins I committed before I came to the knowledge of the Truth, and all the slips of humane infirmity, against which we heartily pray, and watch, and labour, and all the evil habits of which we repent so timely and effectually that we obtain their contrary graces and live in them, are fully remitted by the blood of Christ; which for-

Rom. 3. 28. Acts 2. 38. &. 13. 38. 1 John 2. 1, 2, 12. Gal. 6. 2. John 20. 23. Mark 16. 16. 2 Pet. 1. 5, &c.

giveness

giveneſs we obtain by *Faith* and *Repentance*, and therefore are not juſtified by the *Righteouſneſs of Works*, but by the *Righteouſneſs of Faith*: and we are preſerved in the ſtate of forgiveneſs or juſtification by the fruits of a lively Faith, and a timely active Repentance.

Eph. 1. 13. 1 Pet. 1. 5, 16, 17, 18. Jam. 2. 17, 20, &c. 1 John 3. 21, &c. Heb. 12. 14, 15. 16.

The Reſurrection of the Body.

I believe that at the laſt day all they *whoſe ſins are forgiven, and who lived and dyed in the Communion of Saints, and in whom the Holy Spirit did dwell*, ſhall riſe from their graves, their dead bones ſhall live and be cloathed with fleſh and skin, and their Bodies together with their Souls ſhall enter into the portion of a new life: and that this body ſhall no more ſee corruption, but ſhall riſe to an excellent condition; it ſhall be Spiritual, powerful, Immortal and Glorious, like unto his glorious body, who ſhall then be our Judge, is now our Advocate, our Saviour and our Lord.

1 Cor. 15, 29, &c. Matth. 22. 31. Rom. 8. 11, 23. John 6. 39. Phil. 3. 20. 2 Cor. 4. 1.

And

And the Life everlasting.

I believe that they who have their part in this Resurrection shall
2 Thess. 4.17. meet the Lord in the Air, and when
Rom. 21. 4. the blessed Sentence is pronounced upon them, they shall for ever be with the Lord in joys unspeakable and full of glory. God shall wipe all tears from their eyes; there
Rev. 22. 5. shall be no fear or sorrow, no mourning or death; a friend shall never go away from thence, and an enemy shall never enter; there shall be fulness without want, light
Matth. 25. 34. eternal brighter than the Sun, day and no night, joy and no weeping, difference in degree and yet all full; there is *love without dissimulation*, excellency without envy, multitudes without confusion, musick without discord; there the Understandings are rich, the Will is satisfied, the Affections are all love and all joy, and they shall reign with God and Christ for ever and ever. *Amen.*

This

This is the Catholick Faith, which except a man believe faithfully he cannot be saved.

Tertull. de velandis Virgin.

" *Regula quidem fidei una omnino*
" *est, sola immobilis & irreformabilis,*
" *credendi, scilicet, in unicum De-*
" *um Omnipotentem, &c. Hac lege*
" *fidei manente, cætera jam disci-*
" *plinæ & conversationis admittunt*
" *novitatem correctionis, operante, scil.*
" *& proficiente usque in finem Gratia*
" *Dei.*

The Rule of Faith is wholly one, unalterable, never to be mended, never changed; to wit, *I Believe in God*, &c. This Law of Faith remaining, in other things you may encrease and grow.

S. Aug. de Fide & Symb.

" *Hæc est Fides, quæ paucis verbis*
" *tenenda in Symbolo Novellis datur.*
" *Quæ pauca verba fidelibus nota sunt:*
" *ut credendo subjugentur Deo, sub-*
" *jugati recte vivant, recte vivendo*
" *cor mundent, corde mundo quod cre-*
" *dunt, intelligant.*

This is the Faith which in few words is given to Novices. These few

few words are known to all the faithful; that by believing they may be subject to God, by this subjection they may live well, by living well they may purifie their hearts, and with pure hearts they may [relish and] understand what they do believe.

Max. Taurin. de Tradit. Symb.
"*Symbolum tessera est & signaculum*
"*quo inter fideles perfidosq; secernitur.*

This Creed is the Badge or Cognizance by which the Faithful are discerned from Unbelievers.

"*Hujus Catholici Symboli brevi*
"*& perfecta Confessio, quæ duodecim*
"*Apostolorum totidem est signata sen-*
"*tentiis, tam instructa est in muni-*
"*tione cœlesti, ut omnes Hæretico-*
"*rum opiniones solo possint gladio de-*
"*truncari.* Leo M. ad Pulcheriam Aug.

This short and perfect Confession of this Catholick Creed, which was consigned by the Sentences of the twelve Apostles, is so perfect a celestial Armour, that all the Opinions of Hereticks may by this alone as with a Sword, be cut in pieces.

AGEN-

AGENDA:

OR

Things to be done.

THE

DIARY;

OR

A RULE to ſpend each day religiouſly

SECT. 1.

1. SUppoſe every day to be a day of buſineſs: for your whole life is a race, and a battel; a merchandiſe, and a journey. Every day propound to your ſelf a Roſary or a Chaplet of good works to preſent to God at night.

2. Riſe as ſoon as your health and other

other occasions shall permit; but it is good to be as regular as you can, and as early. Remember, he that rises first to Prayer hath a more early title to a Blessing. But he that changes night into day, labour into idleness, watchfulness into sleep, changes his hopes of blessing into a dream.

4. Never let any one think it an excuse to lie in bed, because he hath nothing to do when he is up: for whoever hath a Soul, and hopes to save that Soul, hath work enough to do *to make his calling and election sure*, to serve God and to pray, to read and to meditate, to repent and to amend, to do good to others and to keep evil from themselves. And if thou hast little to do, thou ought'st to imploy the more time in laying up for a greater Crown of Glory.

4. At your opening your eyes, enter upon the day with some act of piety.

1. Of Thanksgiving for the preservation of you the night past.
2. Of the Glorification of God for the works of the Creation, or any thing for the honour of God.

5. When you first go off from your bed,

bed, ſolemnly and devoutly bow your head, and worſhip the Holy Trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Ghoſt.

6. When you are making ready, be as ſilent as you can, and ſpend that time in holy thoughts; there being no way left to redeem that time from loſs, but by meditation and ſhort mental prayers. If you chuſe to ſpeak, ſpeak ſomething of God's praiſes, of his goodneſs, his mercies, or his greatneſs, Ever reſolving that the firſt-fruits of thy Reaſon and of all thy Faculties ſhall be preſented to God, to ſanctifie the whole harveſt of thy converſation.

7. Be not curious, nor careleſs in your Habit, but always keep theſe meaſures.

1. Be not troubleſome to thy ſelf or to others by unhandſomneſs or uncleanneſs.
2. Let it be according to your ſtate and quality.
3. Make Religion to be the difference of your habit, ſo as to be beſt attired upon Holy or Feſtival daies.

8. In your dreſſing, let there be ejaculations fitted to the ſeveral actions of dreſſing; as at waſhing your hands and face

face, pray God to cleanse your Soul from sin; in putting on your cloths, pray him to cloath your Soul with the righteousness of your Saviour, and so in all the rest.

For Religion must not only be the garment of your Soul, to invest it all over; but it must be also as the fringes to every of your actions, that something of Religion appear in every one of them besides the innocence of all of them.

9. As soon as you are dressed with the first preparation of your cloaths, that you can decently do it, kneel and say the Lord's Prayer; then rise from your knees and do what is necessary for you in order to your farther dressing, or affairs of the house, which is speedily to be done; and then finish your dressing according to the foregoing Rules.

10. When you are dressed, retire your self to your Closet, and go to your usual devotions; which it is good that at the first prayers they were divided into seven actions of Piety.

1. An act of Adoration.
2. Of Thanksgiving.
3. Of Oblation.
4. Of Confession.

5. Of

5. Of Petition.
6. Of Interceſſion.
7. Of Meditation, or ſerious, deliberate, uſeful reading of the Holy Scriptures.

11. I adviſe that your reading ſhould be governed by theſe meaſures.

Οὐκ ἔστι τινὰ σωθῆναι μὴ συνεχῶς ἀναγνώσεως ἀπολαύοντα πνευματικῆς. St. Chryſ. Hom. 3. de Lazaro.

1. Let it not be, of the whole Bible in order, but for your devotion uſe the New Teſtament, and ſuch portions of the Old as contain the Precepts of holy life.
2. The Hiſtorical and leſs uſeful part, let it be read at ſuch other times which you have of leiſure from your Domeſtick imployments.
3. Thoſe portions of Scripture which you uſe in your prayers, let them not be long: a Chapter at once, no more. But then what time you can afford, ſpend it in thinking and meditating upon the holy Preceptswhich youread.
4. Be ſure to meditate ſo long, till you make ſome *act of piety* upon the occaſion of what you meditate:

tate either that you get ſome ne
arguments againſt a ſin, or ſom
new incouragements to vertue
ſome ſpiritual ſtrength and a
vantage, or elſe ſome act of Pra
er to God, or glorification of hi

5. I adviſe that you would re
yourChapter in the midſt of yo
Prayers in the Morning, if th
be divided according to the nu
ber of the former actions; b
cauſe little interruptions will
apt to make your Prayers leſs t
dious, and your ſelf more atte
upon them. But if you find a
other way more agreeing to yo
ſpirit and diſpoſition, uſe your l
berty without ſcruple.

12. Before you go forth of your Cl
ſet, after your Prayers are done, ſ
your ſelf down a little while and co
ſider what you are to do that day, wh
matter or buſineſs is like to imploy yo
or to tempt you; and take particular r
ſolution againſt that, whether it be ma
ter of wrangling, or anger, or covetou
neſs, or vain courtſhip, or feaſting; an
when you enter upon it, remember up
on what you reſolved in your Cloſe

If you are likely to have nothing extraordinary that day, a general recommendation of the affairs of that day to God in your prayers will be sufficient: but if there be any thing foreseen that is not usual, be sure to be armed for it by a hearty, though a short, prayer, and an earnest prudent resolution before-hand, and then watch when the thing comes.

13. Whosoever hath Children or Servants, let him or her take care that all the Children and Servants of the Family say their Prayers before they begin their work. The *Lord's Prayer* and the *Ten Commandments*, with the *short verse* at the end of every Commandment which the Church uses, and the *Creed* is a very good office for them, if they be not fitted for more regular offices. And to these also it were good that some proper Prayer were apportioned, and they taught it. It were well if they would serve themselves of this Form set down at the end of this Diary.

14. Then go about the affairs of your house and proper imployment, ever avoiding idleness, or too much earnestness of affection upon the things of the world: Do your business *prudently*,

temperately, diligently, humbly, charitably.

15. Let there be no idle perſon in or about your family, of beggars or unimployed Servants, but find them all *work* and *meat*, call upon them carefully, reprove them without reproaches or fierce railings. Be a maſter or a miſtreſs, and a friend to them, and exact of them to be faithful and diligent.

16. In your Servants ſuffer any offence againſt your ſelf rather than againſt God; endure not that they ſhould ſwear, or lie, or ſteal, or be wanton, or curſe each other, or be railers, or ſlanderers, or tell-tales, or ſowers of diſſenſion in the family, or amongſt neighbours.

17. In all your entercourſe with your neighbours in the day, let your affairs be wholly matter of buſineſs or civility, and always managed with juſtice and Charity: neither let it be matter of curioſity or enquiry into the actions of others, always without cenſuring or raſh judgment, without backbiting, ſlandering or detraction: Do it not your ſelf, neither converſe with them that do. He or ſhe that loves tale-bearers ſhall never be beloved, or be innocent.

18. Before dinner and ſupper, as often

ten as it is convenient or can be had, let the publick Prayers of the Church, or ſome parts of them be ſaid publickly in the family, and let as many be preſent as you can. The ſame rule is alſo to be obſerved for Sundays and Holy-days, for their going to Church. Let no ſervant be always detained, but relieved and provided for by changes.

19. Let your meal be temperate and wholeſome according to your quality and the ſeaſon, begun and ended with Prayer: and be ſure that in the courſe of your meal, and before you riſe, you recollect your ſelf, and ſend your heart up to God with ſome holy and ſhort Ejaculation; remembring your duty, fearing to offend, or deſiring and ſighing after the eternal Supper of the Lamb.

20. After meal uſe what innocent refreſhment you pleaſe, to refreſh your mind or body with theſe meaſures.

1. Let it not be too expenſive of time.
2. Let it not hinder your devotion, nor your buſineſs.
3. Let it be always without violence or paſſion.
4. Let it not then wholly take you

up when you are at it; but let your heart retire with some holy thoughts and sober recollections, lest your mind be seized upon by it, and your affections carried off from better things: secure your affections for God, and sober and severe imployment. Here you may be refreshed, but take heed you neither *dwell here*, nor *sin here*. It is better never to use recreation, than at any time to sin by it: But you may use recreation, and avoid sin, and *that's the best temper*. But if you cannot do both, be more careful of your Soul than of your refreshment; and *that's the best security* But then, in what you use to sin, carefully avoid it, and change your refreshment for some other instance in which you can be more innocent.

21. Entertain no long discourse with any, but, if you can, bring in something to season it with Religion: as God must be in all your thoughts, so, if it be possible, let him be in all your discourses, at least let him be at one end of it; and when

when you can ſpeak of him, be ſure you forget not to think of him.

22. Toward the declining of the day, be ſure to retire to your private devotions: Read, meditate and pray. In which I propound to you this method. On the Lord's day meditate of the glories of the Creation, of the works of God and all his benefits to mankind, and to you in particular. Then let your devotion be, humbly upon your knees to ſay over the 8th and 9th Pſalms, and ſometimes the 104th, with proper Collects which you ſhall find or get: adding the form of thankſgiving which is in the *Rule of Holy Living*, pag. 378. in the manner as is there directed, or ſome other of your own chuſing.

Meditate on { *Monday*, *Tueſday*, *Wedneſday*, *Thurſday* } on { 1. *Death* 2. *Judgment* 3. *Heaven* 4. *Hell.* }

Saying your uſual Prayers, and adding ſome Ejaculations or ſhort ſayings of your own, according to the matter of your devotion.

On *Friday* recollect your ſins that you have done that week, and all your life-time, and let your devotion be to

recite humbly and devoutly ſome penitential Litanies, whereof you may ſerve your ſelf in the *Rule of Holy Living*, pag. 373.

On *Saturday* at the ſame time, meditate on the Paſſion of our bleſſed Saviour and all the myſteries of our Redemption, which you may do and pray together by uſing the forms made to that purpoſe in the *Rule of Holy Living*, pag. 391. In all your devotions begin and end with the Lord's Prayer.

Upon theſe two days and *Sunday* you may chuſe ſome portions out of *The Life of Chriſt*, to read and help your meditation, proper to the myſteries you are appointed to meditate, or any other devout Books.

23. Read not much at a time; but meditate as much as your time and capacity and diſpoſition will give you leave: ever-remembring, that little reading and much thinking, little ſpeaking and much hearing, frequent and ſhort prayers and great devotion is the beſt way to be wiſe, to be holy, to be devout.

24. Before you go to bed, bethink your ſelf of the day paſt: if nothing extraordinary hath hapned, your Conſcience

ence is the ſooner examined; but if you have had any difference or diſagreeing with any one, or a great feaſt, or great company, or a great joy, or a great ſorrow, then recollect your ſelf with the more diligence: ask pardon for what is amiſs; give God thanks for what was good, If you have omitted any duty, make amends next day; and yet if nothing be found that was amiſs, be humbled ſtill, and thankful, and pray God for pardon if any thing be amiſs that you know not of. If all theſe things be in your offices for your laſt prayers, be ſure to apply them according to what you find in your examination: but if they be not, ſupply them with ſhort ejaculations before you begin your laſt prayers, or at the end of them. Remember alſo and be ſure to take notice of all the mercies and deliverances of your ſelf and your Relatives that day.

25. As you are going to bed, as often as you can conveniently, or that you are not hindred by company, meditate of death and the preparations to your grave. When you lie down, cloſe your eyes with a ſhort prayer, commit your ſelf into the hands of your faithful Crea-

tor: and when you have done, truſt him with your ſelf, as you muſt do when you are dying.

26. If you awake in the night, fill up the intervals or ſpaces of your not ſleeping by holy thoughts and aſpirations, and remember the ſins of your youth: and ſometimes remember your dead, and that you ſhall die; and pray to God to ſend to you and all mankind a mercy in the day of Judgment.

27. Upon the Holy-days obſerve the ſame Rules; only let the matter of your meditations be according to the myſtery of the day. As upon *Chriſtmas*-day meditate on the Birth of our Bleſſed Saviour, and read the Story and Conſiderations which are in *The Life of Chriſt*: and to your ordinary devotions of every day add the prayer which is fitted to the myſtery, which you ſhall find in *The Life of Chriſt*, or *the Rule of Holy Living*. Upon the day of the Annunciation, or our *Lady-day*, meditate on the Incarnation of our Bleſſed Saviour; and ſo upon all the Feſtivals of the year.

28. Set apart one day for faſting once a week, or once a fortnight, or once a month

month at leaſt: but let it be with theſe cautions and meaſures.

1. Do not chuſe a Feſtival of the Church for your Faſting day.
2. Eat nothing till your afternoon-devotions be done, if the health of your body will permit it: if not, take ſomething, though it be the leſs.
3. When you eat your meal, let it be no more than ordinary, leſt your faſting day end in an intemperate evening.
4. Let the actions of all the day be proportionable to it; abſtain from your uſual recreations on that day, & from greater mirth.
5. Be ſure to deſign before-hand the purpoſes of your faſt, either for *Repentance*, or for *Mortification*, or for the advantages of *Prayer*; and let your devotions be accordingly. But be ſure not to think faſting, or eating fiſh, or eating nothing of it ſelf to be pleaſing to God, but as it ſerves to one of theſe purpoſes.
6. Let ſome part of that day extraordinary be ſet apart for Prayer

for the actions of Repentance, for Confeſſion of ſins and for begging of thoſe Graces for whoſe ſake you ſet apart that day,

7. Be ſure that on that day you ſet apart ſomething for the poor; for *Faſting* and *Alms* are *the Wings of Prayer.*

8. It is beſt to chuſe that day for your faſt which is uſed generally by all Chriſtians, as Friday and Saturday: but do not call it a faſting-day, unleſs alſo it be a day of extraordinary devotion and of Alms.

29. From obſervation of all the days of your life, gather out the four extraordinaries.

1. All the great and ſhameful ſins you have committed.
2. All the excellent or greater acts of Piety which by God's grace you have performed.
3. All the great bleſſings you have received.
4. All the dangers and great ſickneſſes you have eſcaped: and upon all the days of your extraordinary devotions, let them be brought

brought forth, and produce their acts of vertue.

1. Repentance and prayers for pardon.
2. Reſolutions to proceed and increaſe in good works.
3. Thankſgiving to God.
4. Fear and watchfulneſs, leſt we fall into worſe, as a puniſhment for our ſin

30. Keep a little Catalogue of theſe, and at the foot of them ſet down what Promiſes and Vows you have made, and kept or broken, and do according as you are obliged.

31. Receive the bleſſed Sacrament as often as you can: endeavour to have it once a month, beſides the ſolemn and great Feſtivals of the year.

32. Confeſs your ſins often, hear the Word of God, make Religion the buſineſs of your life, your ſtudy, and chiefeſt care; and be ſure that in all things a ſpiritual Guide take you by the hand.

Thou ſhalt always rejoyce in the Evening, if thou doſt ſpend the day vertuouſly.

VIA PACIS.

A

SHORT METHOD

OF

Peace and *Holineſs.*

With a Manual of

DAILY PRAYERS

Fitted to the days of the Week.

SUNDAY.

Decad the firſt.

1. IT is the higheſt Wiſdom, by deſpiſing the world to arrive at Heaven: for they are bleſſed whoſe daily exerciſe it is to converſe with God by *Prayer* and *Obedience*, by *Love* and *Patience*.

2. It

2. It is the extreameſt folly to labour for that which will bring torment in the end, and no ſatisfaction in the little enjoyment of it: to be unwearied in the purſuit of the world, and to be ſoon tir'd in whatſoever we begin to do for Chriſt.

3. Watch over thy ſelf, counſel thy ſelf, reprove thy ſelf, cenſure thy ſelf, and judge thy ſelf impartially; whatever thou doſt to others, do not neglect thy ſelf. For every man profits ſo much as he does violence to himſelf.

4. They that follow their own ſenſuality, ſtain their Conſciences, and loſe the grace of God; but he that endeavours to pleaſe God, whatever he ſuffers, is beloved of God. For it is not a Queſtion, Whether we ſhall or ſhall not ſuffer: but whether we ſhall ſuffer for God, or for the world; whether we ſhall take pains in Religion, or in ſin, to get Heaven, or to get riches.

5. What availeth knowledge without the fear of God? A humble ignorant man is better than a proud ſcholar, who ſtudies natural things, & knows not himſelf. The more thou knoweſt, the more grievouſly thou ſhalt be judged. Many get no profit by their labour, becauſe they contend

tend for knowledge rather than for holy life; and the time ſhall come, when it ſhall more avail thee to have ſubdu'd *one luſt*, than to have known *all myſteries*.

6. No man truly knows himſelf, but he groweth daily more contemptible in his own eyes. Deſire not to be known, and to be little eſteem'd of by men.

7. If all be well *within*, nothing can hurt us from *without*: for from inordinate love and vain fear comes all unquietneſs of ſpirit and diſtraction of our ſenſes

8. He to whom all things are one, who draweth all things to one, and ſeeth all things in one, may enjoy true peace and reſt of Spirit.

9. It is not much buſineſs that diſtracts any man, but the want of purity, conſtancy, and tendency towards God. Who hinders thee more than the unmortified deſires of thy own heart? As ſoon as ever a man deſires any thing inordinately, he is preſently diſquieted in himſelf. He that hath not wholly ſubdued himſelf is quickly tempted and overcome in ſmall and trifling things. The weak in ſpirit is he that is in a manner ſubject to his appetite,

tite, and he quickly falls into *indignation* and *contention* and *envy*.

10. He is truly great that is great in Charity, and litle in himself.

MONDAY.

The second Decad.

11. WE rather often believe and speak evil of others, than good. But they that are truly vertuous do not easily credit evil that is told them of their neighbours. For if orhers may *do amiss*, then may these also *speak amiss*. Man is frail and prone to evil, and therefore may soon fail in words.

12. Be not rash in thy proceedings, nor confident and pertinacious in thy conceits. But consult with him that is wise, and seek to be instructed by a better than thy self.

13. The more humble and resign'd we are to God, the more prudent we are in our affairs to men, and peaceable in our selves.

14. The proud and the covetous can never rest.

15. Be not asham'd to be, or to be esteem'd

eſteem'd poor in this world; for he that hears God teaching him, will find that it is the beſt wiſdom to withdraw all our affections from ſecular honour and troubleſome riches, and to place them upon eternal treaſures, and by patience, by humility, by ſuffering ſcorn and contempt, and all the will of God, to get the true riches.

16. Be not proud of well doing; for the judgment of God is far differing from the judgment of men.

17. Lay not thy heart open to every one, but with the wiſe and them that fear God. Converſe not much with young people and ſtrangers. Flatter not the rich, neither do thou willingly or lightly appear before great Perſonages. Never be partaker with the perſecutors.

18. It is eaſier and ſafer, and more pleaſant to live in obedience, than to be at our own diſpoſing.

19. Always yield to others when there is cauſe; for that is no ſhame, but honour; but it is a ſhame to ſtand ſtiff in a fooliſh or weak argument on reſolution.

20. The talk of worldly affairs hindereth much, although recounted with a fair

fair intention: we ſpeak willingly, but ſeldom return to ſilence.

TUESDAY.

The third Decad.

21. WAtch and pray, leſt your time paſs without profit or fruit. But devout diſcourſes do greatly further our ſpiritual progreſs, if perſons of one mind and ſpirit be gathered together in God.

22. We ſhould enjoy more peace, if we did not buſie our ſelves with the words and deeds of other men, which appertain not to our charge.

23. He that eſteems his progreſs in Religion, to conſiſt in exteriour Obſervances, his devotion will quickly be at an end: but to free your ſelves of paſſions is to lay the axe to the root of the tree, and the true way of peace.

24. It is good that we *ſometimes* be contradicted and ill thought of, and that we *always* bear it well, even when we deſerve to be well ſpoken of. Perfect peace and ſecurity cannot be had in this world.

25. All

25. All the Saints have profited by tribulations; and they that could not bear temptations became reprobates, and fell from God.

26. Think not all is well within when all is well without; or that thy being pleas'd is a sign that God is pleas'd: but suspect every thing that is prosperous, unless it promotes Piety, and Charity and Humility.

27. Do no evil, for no interest, and to please no man, for no friendship, and for no fear.

28. God regards not how much we do, but from how much it proceeds. He does much that loves much.

29. Patiently suffer that from others which thou canst not mend in them, until God please to do it for thee; and remember that thou mend thy self, since thou art so willing others should not offend in any thing.

30. Every man's vertue is best seen in adversity and temptation.

WED-

WEDNESDAY.

The Fourth Decad.

31. BEgin every day to repent, not that thou ſhouldſt at all defer it, or ſtand at the door, but becauſe all that is paſt ought to ſeem little to thee, becauſe it is ſo in it ſelf: begin the next day with the ſame zeal, and the ſame fear, and the ſame humility, as if thou hadſt never begun before.

32. A little omiſſion of any uſual exerciſe of piety cannot happen to thee without ſome loſs and conſiderable detriment, even though it be upon a conſiderable cauſe.

33. Be not ſlow in common and uſual acts of Piety and Devotion, and quick and prompt at ſingularities: but having firſt done what thou art bound to, proceed to *counſels* and *perfections*, and the extraordinaries of *Religion*, as you ſee cauſe.

34. He that deſires much to hear news is never void of paſſions and ſecular deſires, and adherences to the world.

35. Complain not too much of hinderances.

derances of Devotion: If thou let men alone, they will let thee alone; and if you desire not to converse with them, let them know it, and they will not desire to converse with thee.

36. Draw not to thy self the affairs of others, neither involve thy self in the suits and parties of great Personages.

37. Know that if any trouble happen to thee, it is what thou hast deserved, and therefore brought upon thy self. But if any comfort come to thee, it is a gift of God, and what thou didst not deserve. And remember that oftentimes when thy body complains of trouble, it is not so much the greatness of trouble, as littleness of thy spirit, that makes thee to complain.

38. He that knows how to suffer any thing for God, that desires heartily the Will of God may be done in him, that studies to please others rather than himself, to do the will of his Superiour, not his own, that chuseth the least portion, and is not greedy for the biggest, that takes the lowest place, and does not murmur secretly; he is in the best condition and state of things.

39. Let no man despair of mercy or

ſucceſs ſo long as he hath life and health.

40. Every man muſt paſs through fire and water before he can come to refreſhment.

THURSDAY.

The fifth Decad.

41. SOon may a man loſe that by negligence which hath by much labour and a long time and a mighty grace ſcarcely been obtain'd. And what ſhall become of us before night, who are weary ſo early in the morning? Wo be to that man who would be at reſt, even when he hath ſcarcely a foot ſtep of holineſs appearing in his converſation.

42. So think, and ſo do, as if thou were to die to day, and at night to give an account of thy whole life.

43. Beg not a long life, but a good one; for length of days oftentimes prolongs the evil, and augments the guilt. It were well if that little time we live, we would live well.

44. Entertain the ſame opinions and thoughts of thy ſin, and of thy preſent ſtate, as thou wilt in the day of ſorrow.

Thou

Thou wilt then think thy ſelf very miſe-
rable and very fooliſh, for neglecting
one hour, and one day of thy Salvation.
Think ſo now, and thou wilt be more
provident of thy time and of thy talent.
For there will a time come, when every
careleſs man ſhall deſire the reſpite of
one hour for Prayer and Repentance,
and I know not who will grant it. Hap-
py is he that ſo lives, that in the day of
death he rejoyces, and is not amazed.

45. He that would die comfortably
may ſerve his ends by firſt procuring to
himſelf a contempt of the world, a fer-
vent deſire of growing in grace, love of
diſcipline, a laborious repentance, a
prompt obedience, ſelf-denial, and to-
leration of every croſs accident for the
love of Chriſt, and a tender Charity.

46. While thou art well thou mayeſt
do much good, if thou wilt; but when
thou art ſick, neither thou nor I can tell
what thou ſhalt be able to do: It is not
very much, nor very good. Few men
mend with ſickneſs, as there are but few
who by travel and a wandering life be-
come devout.

47. Be not troubled nor faint in the
labours of mortification, and the auſte-
rities

rities of Repentance; for in Hell one hour is more intolerable than a hundred years in the houſe of Repentance: and try; for if thou canſt not endure God puniſhing thy follies gently, for a while, to amend thee, how wilt thou endure his vengeance for ever to undo thee?

48. In thy Prayers wait for God, and think not every hearty Prayer can procure every thing thou askeſt. Thoſe things which the Saints did not obtain without many prayers, and much labour, and ſhowrs of tears, and a long protracted watchfulneſs and induſtry, do thou expect alſo in its own time, and by its uſual meaſure. Do thou valiantly, and hope confidently, and wait patiently, and thou ſhalt find thou wilt not be deceived.

49. Be careful thou doeſt not ſpeak a lie in thy prayers, which, though not obſerved, is frequently practis'd by careleſs perſons, eſpecially in the forms of Confeſſion, affirming things which they have not thought, profeſſing ſorrow which is not, making a vow they mean not.

50. If thou meaneſt to be devout, and to enlarge thy Religion, do it rather by

increaſing

increasing thy ordinary devotions than thy extraordinary. For if they be not regular, but come by chance, they will not last long. But if they be added to your ordinary offices, or made to be daily, thy spirit will by use and custom be made tender, and not willing to go less.

FRIDAY.

The sixth Decad.

51. HE is a truly charitable and good man, who, when he receives injuries, grieves rather for the malice of him that injures him, than for his own suffering; who willingly prays for him that wrongs him, & from his heart forgives all his fault; who stays not, but quickly asks pardon of others for his errours or mistakes; who sooner shews mercy than anger; who thinks better of others than himself; who offers violence to his appetite, and in all things endeavours to subdue the flesh to the spirit. This is an excellent abbreviature of the whole duty of a Christian.

52. No man can have felicity in two states of things. If he takes it in God here, in him he shall have it hereafter, for,

for God will last for ever. But if he takes felicity in things of this world, where will his felicity be when this world is done? Either here alone or hereafter must be thy portion.

53. Avoid those things in thy self which in others do most displease thee. And remember that as thine eye observes others, so art thou observed by God, by Angels, and by Men.

54. He that puts his confidence in God only, is neither over-joyed in any great good things of this life, nor sorrowful for a little thing. Let God be thy love and thy fear, and he also will be thy Salvation and thy refuge.

55. Do not omit thy Prayers for want of a good Oratory or place to pray in, nor thy duty for want of temporal encouragements. For he that does both upon God's account, cares not *how* or *what* he suffers, so he suffer well, and be the friend of Christ; nor *where* nor *when* he suffers, so he may do it *frequently*, *fervently* and *acceptably*.

56. Very often remember and meditate upon the wounds and stripes, the shame and the pain, the death and the burial of our Lord *Jesus*; for nothing

will more enable us to bear our Cross *patiently*, injuries *charitably*, the labour of Religion *comfortably*, and censuring words and detractions with *meekness* and *quietness*.

57. Esteem not thy self to have profited in Religion, unless thou thinkest well of others, and meanly of thy self: Therefore never accuse any but thy self; and he that diligently watches himself will be willing enough to be silent concerning others.

58. It is no great matter to live lovingly with good natur'd, with humble and meek persons: but he that can do so with the froward, with the wilful and the ignorant, with the peevish and perverse, he only hath true charity: always remembring, that our solid true peace, and peace of God, consists rather in complying with others than in being complied with, in suffering and forbearing rather than in contention and victory.

59. Simplicity in our intentions and purity of affections are the two wings of a Soul, investing it with the robes and resemblances of a Seraphim. Intend the honour of God principally and sincerely,

cerely, and mingle not thy affections, with any creature, but in juſt ſubordination to God, and to Religion, and thou ſhalt have joy if there be any ſuch thing in this World. For there is no joy but in God, and no ſorrow but in an evil conſcience.

60. Take not much care what or who is for thee, or againſt thee; the judgment of none is to be regarded if God's judgment be otherwiſe. Thou art neither better nor worſe in thy ſelf for any account that is made of thee by any but by God alone: ſecure that to thee, and he will ſecure all the reſt.

SATURDAY.

The ſeventh Decad.

61. BLeſſed is he that underſtands what it is to love *Jeſus*, & contends earneſtly to be like him. Nothing elſe can ſatisfie, or make us perfect. But be thou a Bearer of his Croſs, as well as a lover of his Kingdom. Suffer tribulation for him, or from him, with the ſame ſpirit thou receiveſt conſolation: follow him as well for the bitter Cup of

his paſſion as for the Loaves; and remember, that if it be a hard ſaying, *Take up my Croſs and follow me*, it is a harder ſaying, *Go ye curſed into everlaſting fire.*

62. No man can always have the ſame ſpiritual pleaſure in his Prayers. For the greateſt Saints have ſometimes ſuffered the baniſhment of the heart, ſometimes are fervent, ſometimes they feel a barrenneſs of Devotion: for this Spirit comes and goes. Reſt therefore only in God, and in doing thy duty: and know that if thou beeſt over-joyed to day, this hour will paſs away, and temptation and ſadneſs will ſucceed.

63. In all afflictions ſeek rather for Patience than for Comfort: if thou preſerveſt *that*, *this* will return. Any man would ſerve God, if he felt pleaſure in it always; but the vertuous does it when his Soul is full of heavineſs, and regards not himſelf, but God, and hates that conſolation that leſſens his compunction, but loves anything whereby he is made more humble.

64. That which thou doſt not underſtand when thou readeſt, thou ſhalt underſtand in the day of thy viſitation: for there

there are many ſecrets of Religion which are not perceived till they be felt, and are not felt but in the day of a great calamity.

65. He that prays, deſpairs not But ſad is the condition of him that cannot pray. Happy are they that *can* and *do*, and *love* to *do* it.

66. He that will be pleaſed in his prayers, muſt make his prayers his Rule. All our duty is there ſet down, becauſe in all our duty we beg the Divine Aſſiſtance: and remember, that you are bound to do all thoſe duties, for the doing of which you have prayed for the Divine Aſſiſtance.

67. Be doing actions of Religion as often as thou canſt, and thy worldly pleaſures as ſeldom, that if thou beeſt ſurpriſed by ſudden death, it may be odds but thou mayeſt be taken at thy Prayers.

68. Watch, and reſiſt the Devil in all his Temptations and Snares. His chief deſigns are theſe; to hinder thy deſire in good; to put thee by from thy Spiritual imployment, from Prayers, eſpecially from the Meditation of the Paſſion, from the remembrance of thy Sins, from

humble confeſſion of them, from ſpeedy Repentance, from the cuſtody of thy Senſes and of thy Heart, from firm purpoſes of growing in grace, from reading good Books, and frequent receiving the Holy Sacrament. It is all one to him, if he deceives thee by a lye or by truth? whether he amaze or trouble thee by love of the preſent, or fear of the future. Watch him but in theſe things, and there will be no part left unarmed in which he can wound thee.

69. Remember how the Proud have fallen, and they who have preſumed upon their own ſtrength have been diſgraced; and that the boldeſt and greateſt talkers in the days of peace, have been the moſt dejected and puſillanimous in the day of temptation.

70. No man ought to think he hath found Peace, when nothing troubles him; or that God loves him, becauſe he hath no enemy; nor that all is well, becauſe every thing is according to his mind; nor that he is a holy perſon, becauſe he prays with great ſweetneſs and comfort. But he is at Peace who is reconciled to God; and God loves him, when he hath overcome himſelf; and all

all is well, when nothing pleaſes him but God, being thankful in the midſt of his afflictions; and he is holy, who, when he hath loſt his comfort, loſes nothing of his duty, but is ſtill the ſame when God changes his face towards him.

POSTULANDA:

OR,

Things to be prayed for.

A

FORM of PRAYER,

By way of Paraphraſe expounding

The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father

MErciful and Gracious, thou gaveſt us being, raiſing us from nothing, to be an excellent creation, efforming us after thy own Image, tenderly feeding us, and conducting and ſtrengthening us all our days: Thou art our Father by a more excellent Mercy, adopting us in a new birth, to become partakers of the inheritance

heritance of *Jesus*: Thou hast given us the portion and the food of Sons, O make us to do the Duty of Sons, that we may never lose our title to so glorious an inheritance.

Let this excellent Name and Title, by which thou hast vouchsafed to relate to us, be our glory and our Confidence, our Defence and Guard, our Ornament and Strength, our dignity, and the endearment of Obedience, the Principle of a holy Fear to thee our Father, and of Love to thee and to our Brethren partakers of the same Hope and Dignity.

Unite every member of the Church to thee in holy bands: Let there be no more names of Division, nor Titles and Ensigns of Errour and Partiality: Let not us who are Brethren contend, but in giving honour to each other & glory to thee, contending earnestly for the Faith, but not to the breach of Charity, nor the denying each others Hope. But grant that we may all join in the promotion of the honour of thee our Father in celebrating the Name, and spreading the Family, and propagating the Laws and Institutions, the Promises and Dignities of our Elder Brother, that despising the

tranſitory entertainments of this world, we may labour for and long after the inheritance to which thou haſt given us title, by adopting us into the dignity of Sons. For ever let thy Spirit witneſs to our Spirit that we are thy children: enable us to cry *Abba*, *Father*.

Which art in Heaven.

Heaven is thy Throne, the Earth thy Fooſtool. From thy Throne thou beholdeſt all the dwellers upon Earth, and trieſt out the hearts of men, and nothing is hid from thy ſight. And as thy Knowledge is infinite, ſo is thy Power uncircumſcribed as the utmoſt Orb of *Heaven*, and thou ſitteſt in thy own Eſſential Happineſs and Tranquillity, immovable and Eternal. That is our Country, and thither thy Servants are travelling; there is our Father, and that is our inheritance; there our hearts are, for there our treaſure is laid up till the day of Recompence.

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Name, O God, is glorious, and in thy Name is our Hope and confidence. *According to thy Name, ſo is thy*

thy praiſe unto the Worlds end. They that love thy Name ſhall be joyful in thee; for thy Name which thou madeſt to be proclaimed unto thy people, is, *The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-ſuffering, and abundant in goodneſs and truth, keeping mercy for thouſands, forgiving iniquity, and tranſgreſſion, and ſin, and that will by no means clear the guilty.* In this glorious Name we worſhip thee, O Lord; *and all they that know thy Name will put their truſt in thee. The deſire of our Soul is to thy Name, and to the remembrance of thee.* Thou art worthy O Lord, of Honour, and Praiſe, and glory, for ever and ever: we confeſs thy glories, we rejoyce in thy mercies; *we hope in thy Name, and thy Saints like it well*: for thy Name is praiſed unto the end of the World; it is believed by Faith, relied upon by a holy Hope, and loved by a great Charity. All thy Church celebrates thee with praiſes, and offers to thy Name the Sacrifices of Prayers and Thankſgiving.

Thou, O God, didſt frame our Nature by thy own Image, and now thou haſt imprinted thy Name upon us, we are thy Servants, the relatives and domeſticks

meſticks of thy family,& thou haſt honoured us with the gracious appellative of *Chriſtians*. O let us never diſhonour ſo excellent a Title, nor by unworthy uſages prophane thy holy Name, but for ever glorifie it. Let our Life be anſwerable to our dignity; that our body may be chaſt, our thoughts clean, our words gracious, our manners holy, and our life uſeful and innocent; *that men ſeeing our good works, may glorifie thee our Father which art in Heaven.*

Thy Kingdom come.

Thou raigneſt in Heaven and Earth: O do thou rule alſo in our hearts, advance the intereſt of Religion, let thy Goſpel be placed in all the Regions of the earth, and let all Nations come and worſhip thee, laying their proud wills at thy feet, ſubmitting their underſtandings to the obedience of *Jeſus*, conforming their affections to thy holy Laws. Let thy Kingdom be ſet up glorioufly over us, and do thou reign in our Spirits by *thy Spirit of Grace*; ſubdue every luſt and inordinate appetite, trample upon our pride, mortifie all rebellion within us, and let all thine and our enemies be brought

brought into captivity, that *ſin may never reign in our mortal Bodies*; but that Chriſt may reign in our Underſtanding by Faith, in the Will by Charity, in the Paſſions by Mortification, in all the Members by a right and a chaſt uſe of them. And when thy Kingdom that is within us hath flouriſhed and is advanced to that height whither thou haſt deſigned it, grant thy Kingdom of Glory may ſpeedily ſucceed, and we thy Servants be admitted to the peace and purity, the holineſs and glories of that ſtate where thou reigneſt alone, and *art all in all.*

Thy Will be done in Earth as it is in Heaven.

Thy Will, O God, is the meaſure of holineſs and peace; thy Providence the great diſpoſer of all things, tying all events together, in order to thy glory and the good of thy Servants, by a wonderful myſterious Chain of Wiſdom. Let thy will alſo be the meaſure of our deſires: for we know that *whatſoever thou ſaieſt is true, and whatſoever thou doeſt is good.* Grant we may ſubmit our wills to thine,

thine, being patient of evils which thou inflicteſt, lovers of the good which thou commandeſt, haters of all evil which thou forbiddeſt, pleaſed with all the accidents thou ſendeſt; that though our nature is weaker than Angels, yet our obedience may be as humble, our conformity to thy will may ariſe up to the degrees of Unity, and *theirs cannot be more*; that as they in Heaven, ſo we on Earth may obey thy will *promptly, chearfully, zealouſly*, and with all our faculties: and grant, that as they *there*, ſo all the world *here* may ſerve thee with peace and concord, purity and love unfeigned, with one heart and one voice glorifying thee our heavenly Father.

Grant that we may quit all our own affections, and ſuſpect our reaſonings, and go out of our ſelves, and all our own confidences; that thou being to us all things, diſpoſing all events, and guideing all our actions, and directing our intentions, and over-ruling all things in us and about us, we may be Servants of thy Divine Will for ever.

Give

Give us this day our daily Bread.

Thou, O God, which takeſt care of our Souls, do not deſpiſe our Bodies which thou haſt made and ſanctified, and deſigned to be glorious. But now we are expoſed to hunger and thirſt, nakedneſs and wearineſs, want and inconvenience, *Give unto us neither poverty nor riches, but feed us with food convenient for us*, and cloath us with fitting proviſions, according to that ſtate and condition wherein thou haſt placed thy Servants: that we may not be tempted with want, nor made contemptible by beggery, nor wanton or proud by riches, nor in love with any thing in this world; but that we may uſe it as ſtrangers and pilgrims, as the relief of our needs, the ſupport of our infirmities, and the oyl of our lamps, feeding us till we are quite ſpent in thy ſervice. Lord, take from thy Servants ſad carefulneſs and all diſtruſt, and give us only ſuch a proportion of temporal things as may inable us with comfort to do our duty.

Forgive

Forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us.

O dear God, unleſs thou art pleaſed to pardon us, in vain it is that we ſhould live here, and what good will our life do us? O look upon us with much mercy, for we have ſinned grievouſly againſt thee. Pardon the adherent imperfections of our life, the weakneſs of our duty, the careleſneſs of our ſpirit, our affected ignorance, our indiligence, our raſhneſs and want of obſervation our malice and preſumptions. Turn thine eyes from our impurities, and behold the brightneſs and pureſt innocence of the holy *Jeſus*; and under his cover we plead our cauſe, not that thou ſhouldeſt judge our ſins, but give us pardon, and blot out all our iniquities, that we may never enter into the horrible regions where there are torments without ceaſing, a priſon without ranſom, reproaches without comfort, anguiſh without patience, darkneſs without light, a *worm that never dies, and the fire that never goeth out.*

But

But be pleaſed alſo to give us great charity, that we may truly forgive all that trouble or injure us, that by this Character thou mayeſt diſcern us to be thy Sons and Servants, Diſciples of the Holy *Jeſus*; leſt *our Prayer be turned into ſin*, and thy Grace be recalled, and thou enter into a final anger againſt thy Servants.

Lead us not into Temptation;

Gracious Father, we are weak and ignorant, our affections betray us, and make us willing to dye; *our adverſary the Devil goeth up and down, ſeeking whom he may devour*, he is buſie and crafty, malicious and powerful, watchful and envious; and we tempt our ſelves, running out to miſchief, delighting in the approaches of ſin, and love to have neceſſities put upon us, that ſin may be unavoidable. Pity us in the midſt of theſe diſorders, & give us ſpiritual ſtrength, holy Reſolutions, a watchful Spirit, the whole Armour of God, and thy protection, the guard of Angels, and the conduct of thy holy Spirit, to be our ſecurity in the day of danger. Give us thy grace to fly from all occaſions to ſin, that

we

we may never tempt our ſelves, nor delight to be tempted; and let thy bleſſed Providence ſo order the accidents of our lives, that we may not dwell near an enemy; and when thou ſhalt try us, and ſuffer us to enter into combat, let us always be on thy ſide, and fight valiantly, reſiſt the Devil, and endure patiently, and perſevere conſtantly unto the end, that thou mayeſt crown thy own work in us.

But deliver us from evil.

From ſin and ſhame, from the malice and fraud of the Devil, and from the falſeneſs and greedineſs of men, from all thy wrath, and from all our impurities, good Lord deliver thy Servants.

Do not reſerve any thing of thy wrath in ſtore for us; but let our ſins be pardoned ſo fully, that thou maieſt not puniſh our inventions. And yet if thou wilt not be intreated, but that it be neceſſary that we ſuffer, thy will be done: Smite us here with a Father's Rod, that thou mayeſt ſpare us hereafter: let the ſad accidents of our life be for good to us, not for evil; for our amendment, not to exaſperate or weary us, not to

to harden or confound us: and what evil ſoever it be that ſhall happen, let us not ſin againſt thee. For ever deliver us from *that evil*, and for ever deliver us from the power of the *evil one*, the great enemy of mankind; and never let our portion be in that Region of Darkneſs, in that *everlaſting burning* which thou haſt *prepared for the Devil and his Angels for ever.*

For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

So ſhall we thy Servants advance the Mightineſs of thy Kingdom, the Power of thy Majeſty, and the Glory of thy Mercy, from generation to generation for ever. *Amen.*

LITA-

LITANIES

FOR

All things and Persons.

O God the Father of Mercies, the Father of our Lord *Jesus* Christ, have mercy upon thy Servants, and hear the prayers of us miserable sinners.

O Blessed *Jesus*, the Fountain of Peace and Pardon, our Wisdom and our Righteousness, our Sanctification and Redemption, have mercy upon thy Servants, refuse not to hear the Prayers of us miserable, sorrowful and returning sinners.

O Holy and Divinest Spirit of the Father, help our infirmities; for of our selves we know not what to ask, nor how to pray; but do thou assist and be present in the desires of us miserable sinners.

I.

For Pardon of Sins.

REmember not, Lord, the follies of our childhood, nor the luſts of our youth, the wildneſs of our head, nor the wandrings of our heart; the infinite ſins of our tongue, and the inexcuſable errours of the days of vanity.

Lord, have mercy upon us poor miſerable ſinners.

Remember not, O Lord, the growing iniquities of our elder age, the pride of our ſpirit the abuſe of our members, the greedineſs of our purpoſes, the peeviſhneſs and violence of all our paſſions and affections.

Lord, have mercy, &c.

Remember not, O Lord, how we have been full of envy and malice, anger and revenge, fierce and earneſt in the purchaſes and vanities of the world, and lazy and dull, ſlow and ſoon weary in the things of God and of Religion.

Lord, have mercy, &c.

Re-

Remember not, O Lord, our uncharitable behaviour towards thoſe with whom we have converſed, our jealouſies and ſuſpicions, our evil ſurmiſings and evil reportings, the breach of our promiſes to men, and the breach of all our holy vows made to thee our God.

Lord, have mercy, &c.

Remember not, O Lord, how often we have omitted the ſeveral parts and actions of our duty; for our ſins of Omiſſion are infinite, and we have not ſought after the Righteouſneſs of God, but have reſted in careleſneſs and forgetfulneſs, in a falſe peace and a ſilent Conſcience.

Lord, have mercy, &c.

O moſt gracious Lord, enter not into judgment with thy ſervants, leſt we be conſumed in thy wrath and juſt diſpleaſure; from which,

Good Lord, deliver us, and preſerve thy ſervants for ever.

II.

For Deliverance from Evils.

FRom groſs ignorance and ſtupid negligence, from a wandring head and a trifling ſpirit, from the violence and rule of paſſion, from a ſervile will and a commanding luſt, from all intemperance, inordination and irregularity whatſoever,

Good Lord, deliver and preſerve thy ſervants for ever.

From a covetous mind and greedy deſires, from luſtful thoughts and a wanton eye, from rebellious members and the pride and vanity of ſpirit, from falſe opinions and ignorant confidences,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From improvidence and prodigality, from envy and the ſpirit of ſlander, from idleneſs and ſenſuality, from preſumption and deſpair, from ſinful actions and all vitious habits,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From fierceneſs of rage and haſtineſs of

of ſpirit, from clamorous and reproachful language, from peeviſh anger and inhumane malice, from the ſpirit of contention and haſty and indiſcreet zeal,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From a ſchiſmatical and heretical ſpirit, from tyranny and tumults, from ſedition and factions, from envying the Grace of God in our Brother, from impenitency and hardneſs of heart, from obſtinacy and apoſtaſie, from delighting in ſin and hating God & good men,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From fornication and adultery, from unnatural deſires & unnatural hatreds, from gluttony and drunkenneſs, from loving and believing lyes, and taking pleaſure in the remembrances of evil things, from delighting in our Neighbours miſery and procuring it, from upbraiding others and hating reproof of our ſelves.

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From impudence and ſhame, from contempt and ſcorn, from oppreſſion & cruelty, from a pitileſs and unrelenting ſpirit,

ſpirit, from a churliſh behaviour and undecent uſages of our ſelves or others.

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From famine and peſtilence, from noiſome and infectious diſeaſes, from ſharp and intolerable pains, from impatience and tediouſneſs of ſpirit, from a ſtate of temptation and hardned conſciences, *Good Lord, deliver,* &c.

From baniſhment and priſon, from widowhood and want, from violence of pains and paſſions, from tempeſts and earthquakes, from the rage of fire and water, from Rebellion & Treaſon, from fretfulneſs and inordinate cares, from murmuring againſt God and diſobedience to the Divine Commandment,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From delaying our repentance and perſevering in ſin, from falſe principles and prejudices, from unthankfulneſs and irreligion, from ſeducing others and being abuſed our ſelves, from the malice and craftineſs of the Devil, and the deceit and lyings of the World,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From wounds and murther, from precipices and falls, from fracture of bones and diſlocation of joynts, from diſmembring our bodies and all infatuation of our Souls, from folly and madneſs, from uncertainty of mind and ſtate, and from a certainty of ſinning,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From thunder and lightning, from phantaſms, ſpectres and illuſions of the night, from ſudden and great Changes, from the ſnares of wealth and the contempt of beggary and extreme poverty, from being made an example and a warning to others by ſuffering ſad judgments our ſelves,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From condemning others and juſtifying our ſelves, from miſ-ſpending our time and abuſing thy Grace, from calling good evil and evil good, from conſenting to folly and tempting others,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From exceſs in ſpeaking and peeviſh ſilence, from looſer laughing and immoderate weeping, from giving evil example

ample to others, or following any our ſelves, from giving or receiving ſcandal, from the horrible ſentence of endleſs death and damnation,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From curſing and ſwearing, from uncharitable chiding and eaſineſs to believe evil, from the evil ſpirit that walketh at noon, and the arrow that flieth in darkneſs, from the Angel of wrath and periſhing in popular diſeaſes,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From the want of a Spiritual Guide, from a famine of the Word and Sacraments, from hurtful perſecution, and from taking part with perſecutors,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From drowning or being burnt alive, from ſleepleſs nights and contentious days, from a melancholick and a confuſed ſpirit, from violent fears and the loſs of reaſon, from a vitious life and a ſudden and unprovided death,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From relying upon vain fancies and

falſe foundations, from an evil and an amazed Conſcience, from ſinning near the end of our life, and from deſpairing in the day of death,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

From hypocriſie and wilfulneſs, from ſelf-love and vain ambition, from curioſity and careleſneſs, from being tempted in the days of our weakneſs, from the prevailing of the fleſh and grieving the Spirit, from all thy wrath, and from all our ſins,

Good Lord, deliver, &c.

III.

For gifts and graces.

HEar our Prayer, O Lord, and conſider our deſire, hearken unto us for thy truth and righteouſneſs ſake, O hide not thy face from us, neither caſt away thy ſervants in diſpleaſure.

Give unto us the ſpirit of Prayer, frequent and fervent, holy and perſevering; an unreprovable Faith, a juſt and

and an humble Hope, and a never failing Charity.

Hear our Prayers, O Lord, and conſider our deſire.

Give unto us true humility, a meek and a quiet ſpirit, a loving and a friendly, a holy and a uſeful converſation, bearing the burthens of our neighbours, denying our ſelves, and ſtudying to benefit others, and to pleaſe thee in all things.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give us a prudent and a ſober, a juſt and a ſincere, a temperate and a religious ſpirit; a great contempt of the world, a love of holy things, and a longing after Heaven, and the inſtruments and paths that lead thither.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Grant us to be thankful to our Benefactors, righteous in performing promiſes, loving to our relatives, careful of our charges; to be gentle and eaſie to be intreated, ſlow to anger, and fully inſtructed and readily prepared for every good work.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give us a peaceable ſpirit and a peaceable life, free from debt and deadly ſin; grace to abſtain from appearances of evil, and to do nothing but what is of good report, to confeſs Chriſt and his holy Religion, by a holy and obedient life, and a mind ready to die for him when he ſhall call us and aſſiſt us.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give to thy ſervants a watchful and an obſerving Spirit, diligent in doing our duty, inflexible to evil, obedient to thy word, inquiſitive after thy will, pure and holy thoughts, ſtrong and religious purpoſes, and thy grace to perform faithfully what we have promiſed in the day of our duty, or in the day of our calamity. *Hear our Prayers*, &c.

O teach us to deſpiſe all vanity, to fight the battels of the Lord manfully againſt the fleſh, the World and the Devil, to ſpend our time religiouſly and uſefully, to ſpeak gracious words, to walk always as in thy preſence, to preſerve our Souls and bodies in holineſs, fit for the habitation of the holy Spirit of God.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give

Give us a holy and a perfect repentance, a well-instructed understanding, regular affections, a constant and a wise heart, a good name, a fear of thy Majesty, and a love of all thy glories above all the things in the world for ever.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give us a healthful body and a clear understanding, the love of our neighbours and the peace of the Church, the publick use and comforts of thy holy Word and Sacraments, a great love to all Christians, and obedience to our Superiours Ecclesiastical and Civil all the days of our life.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give us spiritual Wisdom, that we may discern what is pleasing to thee, and follow what belongs unto our peace; and let the knowledge and love of God, and of *Jesus* Christ our Lord, be our guide and our portion all our days.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Give unto us holy dispositions, and an active industry in thy service, to redeem the time mis-spent in vanity: for

thy pity ſake take not vengeance of us for our ſins, but ſanctifie our ſouls and bodies in this life, and glorifie them hereafter.

Hear our Prayers, &c.

Our Father, &c.

IV.

To be added to the former Litanies, according as our Devotions and time will ſuffer.

For all ſtates of Men and Women, eſpecially in the Chriſtian Church.

O Bleſſed God, in mercy remember thine inheritance, and forget not the congregation of the poor for ever; pity poor mankind, whoſe portion is miſery and folly, ſhame and death. But thou art our Redeemer, and the lifter up of our head, and under the ſhadow of thy wings

wings ſhall be our help, until this Tyranny be over-paſt.

Have mercy upon us, O God, and hide not thy ſelf from our Petition.

Preſerve, O God the Catholick Church in holineſs and truth, in unity and peace, free from perſecution, or glorious under it; that ſhe may for ever advance the honour of our Lord *Jeſus*, for ever repreſent his Sacrifice, and glorifie his Perſon, and advance his Religion, and be accepted of thee in her bleſſed Lord; that being filled with his Spirit, ſhe may partake of his glory.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Give the ſpirit of Government and Holineſs to all Chriſtian Kings, Princes and Governours: grant that their people may obey them, and they may obey thee, and live in honeſty and peace, juſtice and holy Religion, being Nurſing-fathers to the Church, Advocates for the oppreſſed, Patrons for the widows, and a Sanctuary for the miſerable and the fatherleſs; that they may reign with thee for ever in the Kingdom of the Lord *Jeſus*.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Give to thy Servants the Biſhops, and all the Clergy, the Spirit of holineſs and courage, of patience and humility, of prudence and diligence, to preach and declare thy will by a holy life and wiſe diſcourſes; that they may miniſter to the good of Souls, and find a glorious reward in the day of our Lord *Jeſus*.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Give to our Relatives [our Wives and Children, our Friends and Benefactours, our Charges, our Family, *&c.*] pardon and ſupport, comfort in all their ſorrows, ſtrength in all temptations, the guard of Angels to preſerve them from evil, and the conduct of thy holy Spirit to lead them into all good; that they doing their duty, may feel thy mercies here, and partake of thy glories hereafter.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Give to all Chriſtian Kingdoms and Commonwealths peace and plenty, health and holy Religion; to all Families of Religion and Nurſeries of Piety zeal and holineſs, prudence and unity, peace and contentedneſs; to all Schools of Learning quietneſs and induſtry, freedom

dom from wars and violence, factions and envy.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Give to all married persons faith and love, charitable and wise compliances, sweetness of society and innocence of conversation; to all Virgins and Widows great love of Religion, a sober and a contented spirit, an unwearied attendance to devotion and the offices of holiness: protection to the fatherless, comfort to the disconsolate, patience and submission, health and spiritual advantages to the sick; that they may feel thy comforts for the days wherein they have suffered adversity.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Be thou a star and a guide to them that travel by land or sea, the confidence and comfort of them that are in storms and shipwracks, the strength of them that toil in the Mines and row in the Gallies, an instructer to the ignorant; to them that are condemned to dye be thou a guide unto death: give chearfulness to every sad heart; spiritual strength & proportionable comfort to them that are afflicted:

afflicted by evil ſpirits; pity the lunaticks, give life and ſalvation to all to whom thou haſt given no underſtanding, accept the ſtupid and the fools to mercy: give liberty to priſoners, redemption to captives, maintenance to the poor, patronage and defence to the oppreſſed, and put a period to the iniquity and to the miſeries of all mankind.

Have mercy upon us, &c.

Give unto our enemies grace and pardon, charity to us, and love to thee; take away all anger from them, and all miſtakes from us, all miſ-interpretations and jealouſies; bring all ſinners to repentance and holineſs, and to all thy Saints and Servants give an increaſing love, and a perſevering duty: bring all Turks, Jews and Infidels to the knowledge and confeſſion of the Lord *Jeſus*, and a participation of all the Promiſes of the Goſpel, all the benefits of his Paſſion; to all Hereticks give humility and ingenuity, repentance of their errours, and grace and power to make amends to the Church and Truth, and a publick acknowledgment of

of a holy faith, to the glory of the Lord *Jesus.*

Have mercy, &c.

Give to all Merchants faithfulneſs and truth; to the labouring husbandman health and fair ſeaſons of the year, and reward his toil with the dew of Heaven and the bleſſings of the earth; to all Artiſans give diligence in their Callings, and a bleſſing on their labours and on their families; to old men piety and perfect repentance, a liberal heart and an open hand, great Religion and deſires after Heaven; to young men give ſobriety and chaſtity, health and uſefulneſs, an early piety and a perſevering duty; to all families viſited with the rod of God give conſolation, and a holy uſe of the affliction, and a ſpeedy deliverance; to us all pardon and holineſs and life eternal, through *Jeſus* Chriſt, *Amen.*

The Grace of our Lord Jeſus *Chriſt, and the Love of God, and the Communication of the Holy Spirit, be with us all for ever.* Amen.

A ſhort

A ſhort Prayer to be ſaid every Morning.

I.

O Almighty God Father of our Lord *Jeſus* Chriſt the God of mercy and comfort, with reverence and fear, with humble confidence and ſtrong deſires, I approach to the throne of Grace, begging of thee mercy and protection, pardon and Salvation. O my God, I am a ſinner, but *ſorrowful* and *repenting*: Thou art juſtly offended at me, but yet thou art my *Lord* and my *Father*, *merciful and gracious*. Be pleaſed to blot all my ſins out of thy remembrance, and heal my Soul that I may never any more ſin againſt thee. Lord, open my eyes, that I may ſee my own infirmities, and watch againſt them; and my own follies, that I may amend them; and be pleaſed to give me perfect underſtanding in the way of godlineſs, that I may walk in it all the days of my pilgrimage. Give me a ſpirit diligent in the works of my calling, chearful and zealous in Religion, fervent and frequent in my prayers, charitable and uſeful in my converſation.

Give

Give me a healthful and a chaſt body, a pure and a holy Soul, a ſanctified and an humble ſpirit; and let my body and Soul and ſpirit be preſerved unblameable to the coming of the Lord *Jeſus. Amen.*

II.

BLeſſed be thy Name, O God, and bleſſed be thy Mercies, who haſt preſerved me this night from ſin & ſorrow, from ſad chances and a violent death, from the malice of the Devil and the evil effects of my own corrupted nature and infirmity. The out-goings of the Morning and Evening ſhall praiſe thee, and thy Servants ſhall rejoyce in giving thee praiſe for the operation of thy hands. Let thy providence & care watch over me this day and all my whole life, that I may never ſin againſt thee by *idleneſs* or *folly*, by *evil company* or *private ſins*, by word or deed, by thought or deſire; and let the imployment of my day leave no ſorrow or the remembrance of an evil conſcience at night, but let it be holy and profitable, bleſſed and always innocent; that when the days of my ſhort abode are done, and the ſhadow is departed, I may dye in thy fear and favour, and

and reſt in a holy hope, and at laſt re. turn to the joys of a bleſſed Reſurrecti-on, through *Jeſus* Chriſt: in whoſe name, and in whoſe words in behalf of my ſelf, and all my friends, and all thy Servants, I humbly and heartily pray, *Our Father*, &c.

A Prayer for the Evening.

ETernal God, Almighty Father of Men and Angels, by whoſe care and providence I am preſerved and bleſſed, comforted and aſſiſted, I humbly beg of thee to pardon the ſins and follies of this day, the weakneſſes of my ſervices and the ſtrength of my paſſions, the raſhneſs of my words and the vanity and evil of my actions. O juſt and dear God, how long ſhall I confeſs my ſins, and pray againſt them, and yet fall under them? O let it be ſo no more, let me never return to the follies of which I am aſhamed, which bring ſorrow and death, and thy diſpleaſure worſe than death. Give me a command over my evil inclinations, and a perfect hatred of ſin, and a love to thee above all the deſires of this world. Be pleaſed to bleſs

bleſs and preſerve me this night from all ſin, and all violence of Chance, and the malice of the ſpirits of darkneſs: Watch over me in my ſleep, and whether I ſleep or wake, let me be thy ſervant. Be thou firſt and laſt in all my thoughts, and the guide and continual aſſiſtance of all my actions. Preſerve my body, pardon the ſin of my Soul, and ſanctifie my ſpirit. Let me always live holily, and juſtly, and ſoberly; and when I die, receive my Soul into thine hands. O holy and ever bleſſed *Jeſus*, that I may lie in thy boſome, and long for thy coming, and hear thy bleſſed Sentence at Doomſday, and behold thy face, and live in thy Kingdom, ſinging praiſes to God for ever and ever, *Amen*.

Our Father, &c.

For Sunday.

A Prayer againſt Pride.

I.

O Eternal God, merciful & glorious, thou art exalted far above all heavens; thy Throne, O God, is glory, & thy Scepter is righteouſneſs, thy Will is holineſs,

neſs, and thy Wiſdom the great foundation of Empire and Government. I adore thy Majeſty, and rejoyce in thy Mercy, and revere thy power, and confeſs all glory and dignity and honour to be thine alone, and theirs to whom thou ſhalt impart any ray of thy Majeſty, or reflexion of thy honour: but as for me, I am a worm and no man, vile duſt and aſhes, the ſon of corruption and the heir of rottenneſs, ſeized upon by folly, a lump of ignorance and ſin, and ſhame and death, *What art thou O Lord*; The great God of Heaven and Earth, the Fountain of Holineſs and Perfection infinite. *But what am I?* So *Ignorant*, that I know not what; ſo *poor*, that I have nothing of my own; ſo *miſerable*, that I am the heir of ſorrow and death; and ſo *ſinful*, that I am encompaſſed with ſhame and grief.

II.

AND yet, O my God, I am proud; proud of my ſhame, glorying in my ſin, boaſting my infirmities; for this is all that I have of my own, ſave only that I have multiplied my miſeries by vile actions, every day diſhonouring the work

work of thy hands: my underſtanding is too confident, my affections rebellious, my will refractory and diſobedient: and yet I know thou reſiſteſt the proud, and didſt caſt the morning Stars, the Angels, from Heaven into chains of darkneſs, when they grew giddy and proud, walking upon the battlements of Heaven, beholding the glorious Regions that were above them.

III.

THou, O God, who *giveſt grace to the humble*, do ſomething alſo for the proud man; make me humble and obedient. Take from me the ſpirit of pride and haughtineſs, ambition and ſelf flattery, confidence and gaiety: teach me to think well, and to expound all things fairly of my brother, to love his worthineſs, to delight in his praiſes, to excuſe his errours, to give thee thanks for his graces, to rejoyce in all the good that he receives, and ever to believe and ſpeak better things of him than of my ſelf.

IV.

IV.

O Teach me to love to be conceal'd and little eſteem'd; let me be truly humbled, and heartily aſhamed of my ſin and folly: teach me to bear reproaches evenly, for I have deſerved them; to refuſe all honours done unto me becauſe I have not deſerved them; to return all to thee, for it is thine alone; to ſuffer reproof thankfully, to amend all my faults ſpeedily: and do thou inveſt my Soul with the humble robe of my meek Maſter and Saviour *Jeſus*; and when I have humbly, patiently, charitably and diligently ſerved thee, change this robe into the ſhining garment of immortality, my confuſion into glory, my folly to perfect knowledge, my weakneſſes and diſhonours to the ſtrength and beauties of the Sons of God.

V.

IN the mean time uſe what means thou pleaſeſt to conform me to the image of thy holy Son; that I may be gentle to others, and ſevere to my ſelf; that I may ſit down in the loweſt place, ſtriving to go before my brother in nothing but in doing him the honour, and ſtaying for my

my glory till thou ſhalt pleaſe in the day of recompences to reflect light from thy face, and admit me to behold thy glories. Grant this for *Jeſus* Chriſt's ſake, who humbled himſelf to the death and ſhame of the Croſs, and is now exalted unto glory: Unto him, with thee, O Father, be glory and praiſe for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For Monday.

A Prayer againſt Covetouſneſs.

I.

O Almighty God, eternal Treaſure of all good things, thou filleſt all things with plenteouſneſs; *Thou clotheſt the lilies of the field, and feedeſt the young ravens that call upon thee*: Thou art all-ſufficient in thy ſelf, and all-ſufficient to us. Let thy providence be my ſtore-houſe, thy diſpenſation of temporal things the limit of my labour, my own neceſſity the meaſures of my deſire: but never let my deſires of this world be greedy, nor my labour immoderate, nor

nor my care vexatious and distracting; but prudent, moderate, holy, subordinate to thy Will, the measure thou hast appointed for me.

II.

TEach me, O God, to despise the world, to labour for the true riches, to *seek the Kingdom of Heaven and its Righteousness*, to be content with what thou providest, to be in this world like a stranger, with affections set upon Heaven, labouring for and longing after the possessions of thy Kingdom; but never suffer my affections to dwell below: but give me a heart compassionate to the poor, liberal to the needy, open and free in all my communications, without base ends, or greedy designs, or unworthy arts of gain; but let my strife be to gain thy favour, to obtain *the blessedness of doing good* to others, and giving to them that want, and *the blessedness of receiving* from thee pardon and support, grace and holiness, perseverance and glory, through *Jesus* Christ our Lord.

For

For Tueſday.

A Prayer againſt Luſt.

I.

O Eternal Purity, thou art brighter than the Sun, purer than the Angels, and the Heavens are not clean in thy ſight; with mercy behold thy ſervant, apt to be tempted with every object, and to be overcome by every enemy. I cannot, O God, ſtand in the day of battel and danger, unleſs thou covereſt me with thy ſhield, and hideſt me under thy wings. The fiery darts of the Devil are ready to conſume me, unleſs the dew of thy grace for ever deſcend upon me. Thou didſt make me after thine image: be pleaſed to preſerve me ſo pure and ſpotleſs, chaſt and clean, that my body may be a holy Temple, and my Soul a Sanctuary to entertain thy divineſt Spirit, the Spirit of love and holineſs, the Prince of Purities.

II.

II.

REprove in me the ſpirit of Fornication and Uncleanneſs, and fill my Soul with holy fires, that no ſtrange fire may come into the Temple of my body, where thou haſt choſen to dwell. O caſt out all thoſe unclean ſpirits which have unhallowed the place where thy holy feet have trod; pardon all my hurtful thoughts, all my impurities, that I, who am a member of Chriſt, may not become the member of an harlot, nor the ſlave of the Devil, nor a ſervant of luſt and unworthy deſires, but do thou purifie my love, and let me *ſeek the things that are above, hating the garments ſpotted with the fleſh*, never any more *grieving thy holy ſpirit* by filthy inclinations, with impure and fantaſtick thoughts; but let my thoughts be holy, my Soul pure, my body chaſt and healthful, my ſpirit ſevere, devout and religious every day more and more; that at the day of our appearing I may be preſented to God waſhed and cleanſed, pure and ſpotleſs, by the blood of the holy Lamb, through *Jeſus* Chriſt our Lord, *Amen*.

For

For Wedneſday.

A Prayer againſt Gluttony and Drunkenneſs.

1.

O Almighty Father of Men and Angels, who haſt of thy great bounty provided plentifully for all mankind, to ſupport his ſtate, to relieve his neceſſities, to refreſh his ſorrows, to recreate his labours, that he may praiſe thee, and rejoice in thy mercies and bounty; be thou gracious unto thy ſervant yet more, and ſuffer me not by my folly to change thy bounty into ſin, thy grace into wantonneſs. Give me the ſpirit of temperance & ſobriety, that I may uſe thy creatures in the ſame meaſures & to the ſame purpoſes which thou haſt deſigned, ſo as may beſt enable me to ſerve thee, but *not to make proviſion for the fleſh, to fulfil the luſts thereof.* Let me not, as *Eſau*, prefer meat before a bleſſing; but ſubdue my appetite, ſubjecting it to reaſon and the grace of God, being content with what is moderate and uſeful, and eaſie

to be obtained, taking it in due time, receiving it thankfully, making it to miniſter to my body, that my body may be a good inſtrument of the Soul, and the Soul a Servant of thy Divine Majeſty for ever and ever.

II.

PArdon, O God, in whatſoever I have offended thee by meat and drink and pleaſures; and never let my body any more be oppreſſed with loads of ſloth and delicacies, or my Soul drowned in Seas of wine or ſtrong drink: but let my appetites be changed into ſpiritual deſires, that I may hunger after the *food of Angels*, and thirſt for the *wine of elect Souls*, and may account it *meat and drink and pleaſure to do thy will*, O God, Lord let me eat and drink ſo, that my food may not become a temptation, or a ſin, or a diſeaſe; but grant that with ſo much caution and prudence I may watch over my appetite, that I may in the ſtrength of thy mercies and refreſhments, in the light of thy countenance, and in the paths of thy Commandments, walk before thee all the days of my life acceptable to thee in

Jeſus

Jesus Christ, ever advancing his honour, and being filled with his Spirit, that I may at last partake of his glory, through the same *Jesus* Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Thursday.

A Prayer against Envy.

I.

O Most gracious Father, thou Spring of an eternal Charity, who hast so loved mankind, that thou didst open thy bosom, and send thy holy Son to convey thy mercies to us: and thou didst create Angels and Men, that thou mightest have objects to whom thou mightest communicate thy goodness: Give me grace to follow so glorious a precedent, that I may never envy the prosperity of any one, but rejoyce to honor him whom thou honourest, to love him whom thou lovest, to commend the vertuous, to discern the precious from the vile, giving honour to whom honour belongs; that I may go to Heaven in the noblest way of rejoycing in the good of others.

II.

O Dear God, never ſuffer the Devil to rub his vileſt Leproſie of Envy upon me; never let me have the affections of the deſperate and damned; let it not be ill with me, when it is well with others: but let thy holy Spirit ſo overrule me for ever, that I may pity the afflicted, and be compaſſionate, and have a fellow-feeling of my brother's ſorrows, and that I may as much as I can, promote his good, and give thee thanks for it, and rejoice with them that do rejoice; never cenſuring his actions curſtly, nor detracting from his praiſes ſpitefully, nor upbraiding his infelicities maliciouſly, but pleaſed in all things, which thou doeſt or giveſt; that I may then triumph in Spirit when thy Kingdom is advanced, when thy Spirit rules, when thy Church is profited, when thy Saints rejoice, when the Devil's intereſt is deſtroyed, truly loving thee, and truly loving my brother; that we may altogether join in the holy Communion of Saints, both here and hereafter, in the meaſures of grace and glory, through *Jeſus* Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

For

For Friday.

A Prayer againſt Wrath and inordinate anger.

I.

O Almighty Judge of Men and Angels, whoſe anger is always the miniſter of Juſtice, ſlow, but ſevere, not lightly ariſing, but falling heavily when it comes; give to thy ſervant a meek and a gentle ſpirit, that I alſo may be ſlow to anger, and eaſie to mercy and forgiveneſs. Give me a wiſe and a conſtant heart, that I may not be moved with every trifling miſtake and inconſiderable accident in the converſation and entercourſe of others, never be moved to an intemperate anger for any injury that is done or offered; let my anger ever be upon a juſt cauſe, meaſured with moderation and reaſon, expreſſed with charity and prudence, laſting but till it hath done ſome good, either upon my ſelf or others.

II.

LOrd, let me be ever courteous, and eaſie to be intreated; never let me fall into a peeviſh or contentious ſpirit, but follow peace with all men, offering forgiveneſs, inviting them by courteſies, ready to confeſs my own errours, apt to make amends, and deſirous to be reconciled. Let no ſickneſs or croſs accident, no imployment or wearineſs, make me angry, or ungentle and diſcontent, or unthankful, or uneaſie to them that miniſter to me; but in all things make me like unto the holy *Jeſus*. Give me the ſpirit of a Chriſtian, charitable, humble, merciful and meek, uſeful and liberal, complying with every chance; angry at nothing but my own ſins, and grieving for the ſins of others: that while my paſſion obeys my reaſon, and my reaſon is religious, and my religion is pure and undefiled, managed with humility, and adorned with charity, I may eſcape thy anger which I have deſerved, and may dwell in thy love, and be thy Son and Servant for ever, through *Jeſus* Chriſt our Lord. *Amen*.

For

For Saturday.

A Prayer againſt wearineſs in well-doing.

I.

O My God, merciful and gracious, my Soul groans under the loads of its own infirmity, *when my ſpirit is willing, my fleſh is weak*, my underſtanding fooliſh and imperfect, my will peeviſh and liſtleſs, my affections wandring after ſtrange objects, my fancy wild and unfixed, all my ſenſes miniſter to folly and vanity; and though they were all made for Religion, yet they leaſt of all delight in that. O my God, pity me, and hear me when I pray, and make that I may pray acceptably. Give me a love to Religion, an unwearied ſpirit in the things of God. Let me not reliſh or delight in the things of the world, in ſenſual objects and tranſitory poſſeſſions; but make my Eyes look up to thee, my Soul be filled with thee, my ſpirit raviſhed with thy love, my underſtanding imployed in the meditation of thy Law, all my

powers and faculties of Soul and Body wholly ſerving thee, and delighting in ſuch holy miniſteries.

II.

O Moſt glorious God, what greater favour is there than that I may, & what eaſier imployment can there be than to *pray* to thee, to be admitted to thy preſence, and to repreſent our needs, and that we have our needs ſupplyed only for asking and deſiring paſſionately and humbly? But we rather quit our hopes of Heaven, than buy it at the cheapeſt rate of humble Prayer. This, O God, is the greateſt infirmity and infelicity of man, and hath an intolerable cauſe, and is an inſufferable evil.

III.

O Relieve my ſpirit with thy graciouſneſs, take from me all tediouſneſs of ſpirit, and give me a laborioufneſs that will not be tired, a hope that ſhall never fail, a deſire of holineſs not to be ſatisfied till it poſſeſſes, a charity that will always increaſe; that I, making Religion the buſineſs of my whole life, may turn all things into Religion, doing all

to

to thy glory, and by the measures of thy Word and of thy Spirit, that when thou shalt call me from this deliciousness of imployment, and the holy mysteries of Grace, I may pass into the imployment of Saints and Angels, whose work it is with eternal joy and thanksgiving to sing praises to the mercies of the great Redeemer of Men, and Saviour of Men and Angels, *Jesus* Christ our Lord: To whom, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and worship, all service and thanks, all Glory and Dominion, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be said by a Maiden, before she enter into the state of Marriage.

I.

O Most glorious God, and my most indulgent Lord & gracious Father, who dost bless us by thy bounty, pardon us by thy mercy, support and guide us by thy grace, and govern us sweetly by thy providence; I give thee most humble and hearty thanks, that thou hast hi-

thereto preſerved me in my Virgin-ſtate with innocence and chaſtity in a good name and a modeſt report. It is thy goodneſs alone, and the bleſſed emanation of thy holy Spirit, by which I have been preſerved; and to thee I return all praiſe and thanks, and adore and love thy goodneſs infinite.

II.

AND now, O Lord, ſince by thy diſpenſation and over-ruling providence I am to change my condition, and enter into the holy ſtate of Marriage, which thou haſt ſanctified by thy Inſtitution, and bleſſed by thy Word and Promiſes, and rais'd up to an excellent myſtery, that it might repreſent the Union of Chriſt and his Church; be pleaſed to go along with thy ſervant in my entring into and paſſing through this ſtate, that it may not be a ſtate of temptation or ſorrow, by occaſion of my ſins or infirmities, but of holineſs and comfort, as thou haſt intended it to all that love and fear thy holy Name.

III. Lord,

III.

LOrd, bleſs and preſerve that dear perſon whom thou haſt choſen to be my Husband: let his life be long and bleſſed, comfortable and holy; and let me alſo become a great bleſſing and comfort unto him, a ſharer in all his joys, a refreſhment in all his ſorrows, a meet helper for him in all accidents and chances of the world. Make me amiable for ever in his eyes, and very dear to him. Unite his heart to me in the deareſt union of love and holineſs, and mine to him in all ſweetneſs, and charity, and compliance. Keep from me all moroſity and ungentleneſs, all ſullenneſs and harſhneſs of diſpoſition, all pride and vanity, all diſcontentedneſs and unreaſonableneſs of paſſion and humour: and make me humble and obedient, charitable and loving, patient and contented, uſeful and obſervant; that we may delight in each other according to thy bleſſed word and Ordinance, and both of us may rejoyce in thee, having our portion in the love and ſervice of God for ever and ever.

IV. O

IV.

O Blessed Father, never suffer any mistakes or discontent, any distrustfulness or sorrow, any trifling arrests of fancy or unhandsom accident, to cause any unkindness between us: but let us so dearly love, so affectionately observe, so religiously attend to each others good and content, that we may always please thee, and by this learn and practise our duty and greatest love to thee, and become mutual helps to each other in the way of Godliness; that when we have received the blessings of a married life, the comforts of society, the endearments of a holy and great affection, and the dowry of blessed Children, we may for ever dwell together in the embraces of thy love and glories, feasting in the Marriage-supper of the Lamb to eternal ages, through *Jesus* Christ our Lord. *Amen, Amen.*

A Prayer for a holy and a happy Death.

O Eternal and Holy *Jesus*, who by death hast overcome death, & by thy

thy paſſion haſt taken out its ſting, and made it to become one of the gates of Heaven, and an entrance to felicity, have mercy upon me now and at the hour of my Death: let thy grace accompany me all the days of my life, that I may by a holy converſation, and an habitual performance of my duty, wait for the coming of our Lord, and be ready to enter with thee, at whatſoever hour thou ſhalt come. Lord let not my death be in any ſenſe unprovided, nor untimely, nor haſty, but after the manner of men, having in it nothing extraordinary, but an extraordinary piety, and the manifeſtation of a great and miraculous mercy. Let my ſenſe & my underſtanding be preſerved intire till the laſt of my days, and grant that I may dy the death of the righteous, free from debt and deadly ſin: having firſt diſcharged all my obligations of juſtice, leaving none miſerable and unprovided in my departure; but be thou the portion of all my friends and relatives, and let thy bleſſing deſcend upon their heads, & abide there till they ſhall meet me in the boſom of our Lord. Preſerve me ever in the communion and peace of the Church; and bleſs my Death-bed with

with the opportunity of a holy and
ſpiritual Guide, with the aſſiſtance a
guard of Angels, with the reception
the holy Sacrament, with patience a
dereliction of my own deſires, with
ſtrong faith, and a firm and humble
hope, with juſt meaſures of repentanc
and great treaſures of charity to th
my God and to all the world, that m
Soul in the arms of the holy *Jeſus* ma
be depoſited with ſafety and joy, the
to expect the revelation of thy day, an
then to partake the glories of thy King-
dom, O eternal and holy *Jeſus*. *Amen*.

A

A

GUIDE

FOR THE

PENITENT.

OR

A Model drawn up for the help of a Devout Soul wounded with Sin.

Tertull.

Peccator omnium Notarum,
Et nulli Rei niſi pœnitentiæ natus.

LONDON,
Printed by *J. M.* for *R. Royſton*, Bookſeller to His moſt Sacred Majeſty,
MDCLXXXIII

TO THE
Christian Reader.

AMong the so troublesome multitude of Books, and the no less trubleſome ſcarcity of good ones, I have no reaſon to think this little Piece will much increaſe the number of the one, or not ſerve to balance the trouble of the other: but I rather hope it may be acceptable and uſeful, if either the great Eminence of the Author, or the Argument it ſelf, or elſe the ſmall bulk, which are things that uſe to render works of this kind conſiderable, be ſufficient either to recommend or excuſe it. For the neceſſity of the argument may recommend it not to moſt Readers only, but very many Writers too. And without doubt, many of thoſe who have been ambitious to put themſelves into the number of Authors by publiſhing their abortive labours, will need the Rules and Offices of this Manual, when their Conſcience ſhall cite them to Repentance, and to ask God forgiveneſs for nouriſhing Faction, and ſowing the ſeeds of Diſcord,

and

and venting their crude Notions to
thers trouble, and their own shame. F
such men in the use of this little E
chiridion may find more comfort, a
do themselves and the Age more righ
than in that small harvest of reputati
their own voluminous labours could bri
in, which are now very fitly preferr
from the Closet to the more worthy m
nisteries of the Shop and Kitchen. B
the most Reverend Author, to whose learn
ed Piety thou owest these following assista
ces, who in the sweetness and mildne
of these lines has expressed the feature
and lineaments of his own candid, serem
Soul, did not address them for his ow
use in that kind. For that he was o
the Highest Order of our Church, he did
not owe to his Interest, which advance
some, nor to his Money, which prefer
commonly too many, but wholly to his
Vertues and his Learning, and those other
eminent Graces, that made his Example
as great in the Church as was his Dignity.
And this little Book is a great instance of
his Humility and Charity, which he does
in some kind still exercise, though he be now
gone to receive his reward for them; and
as he used to look into the necessities of in-
digent

digent persons to relieve them with his hand, so in this Portuise he descends to converse with the weaknesses and solitarines of humble Penitents, directing and improving their Devotions, and instigating their Repentance, and preparing a constant store-house of relief for them by his Pen. And now if a person so eminent in Grace, so innocent in Life, needed such Exercises as this, (for what thou receivest here, know, Courteous Reader, it comes from his Counsel, and from his daily Experience and Practice too) consider, whether thou thy self art not concerned to bring thy actions and life to as severe a scrutiny and a repentance as operative. If thou joynest with me in Opinion, here is a Directory ready at hand: but if not, thou needest it so much the more. For our Sins, the less impression they make on our memory, the deeper they make on our Conscience; and he is in some cases the most guilty who presumes he is wholly innocent. Retract therefore that conceit, and betake thy self to thy Closet and the practice of this Book, and God bless it to thy benefit and his own glory.

A

GUIDE

FOR THE

PENITENT.

Remembrances concerning the Examination of your Conſcience.

I.

YOU are to conſider the Neceſſity of this Duty. For if we take care that the Rooms which we eat or ſleep in ſhould be kept clean, you cannot but think that the cleanſing of the Soul is a Concernment infinitely beyond it; and for doing this there is no other way left but to ſearch out every corner of it, and to caſt out every Sin, with every unclean thought that hath defiled it.

II.

II.

You are to remember, that there i great Measure of Discretion to be u in the Performance of this: so that y may neither omit it, when your o heart may tell you that there is som thing amiss in you which must be look after; nor on the other side over-scr pulously pursue it, when you are not co scious to your self of any notable Fai ings, but such as are incident to huma frailty: for if you do not wilfully pa over any of your greater Offences, bu confess particularly, & repent seriousl of them, God will more easily pass b your lesser Infirmities, being such as th Holy Prophet despaired of finding ou when he so sadly complained, *Who ca tell how oft he offendeth?*

III.

That though it may not only seem, but be impossible to you to recollect every failing, & that your scrupulous endeavouring of it may rather prove a torture to the Conscience than an Ease to it; yet you are so far to exercise an Inquisition upon your self, as by observing these lesser particulars (though it be but in gross) you may the better discover what

what the corruption of your Nature ſways you to; and having diſcovered it, you are bound to ſtrive to ſubdue it by degrees, and what you cannot for the preſent overcome, humbly to ask pardon for.

IV.

That though it be the Duty of every day not to let the Sun go down upon any Sin that you have committed, without examining of the merits of it; yet there are times when this ought to be more punctually and ſolemnly done, eſpecially at ſuch times as you ſet apart for humbling your Soul with Faſting, or for preparing your ſelf for the devout Receiving of the Sacrament.

V.

For the manner of ordering this Examination ſeveral Methods have been preſcribed, ſome by dividing the ſubject Matter of it into Thoughts, Words and Deeds; others as ſins are differenced by their ſeveral Objects, either as being immediately ſins againſt God, or againſt your neighbour, or againſt your own Soul. Others adviſe to ſet God's holy Commandments before you, and to examine by that Rule what you have done

done amiss. But in the choice of t you may free your self from all Per xity by taking his advice whom you s chuse to be your Spiritual Guide. A the duty it self being once resolved u on, the Mode of doing may easily found out.

Advice concerning Confession.

I.

That besides this examination of yo Conscience, (which may be done secret between God and your own Soul there is great use of Holy Confessio which though it be not generally in a Cases, and peremptorily commanded if without it no Salvation could possib be had; yet you are advised by th Church under whose discipline you live that before you are to receive the Hol Sacrament, or when you are visited wit any dangerous sickness, if you find an one particular sin. or more that lies hea vy upon you, to disburthen your self of it into the bosom of your Confessor, who not only stands between God and you to pray for you, but hath the power of

the

the Keys committed to him, upon your true Repentance to Abſolve you in Chriſt's Name from thoſe ſins which you have confeſſed to him.

II.

You are to remember that you bring along with you to Confeſſion not only unfeigned Sorrow and Remorſe of Conſcience for ſins paſt, but ſetled Reſolutions for the time to come never to offend in the ſame kind again: for without this, Confeſſion is but a mere Pageant, and rather a mockery of God, than any effectual means to reconcile you to him.

III.

That having made choice of ſuch a Confeſſor who is every way qualified that you may truſt your Soul with him, you are adviſed plainly and ſincerely to open your heart to him, and that laying aſide all conſideration of any perſonal weakneſs in him, you are to look upon him only as he is a Truſtee from God, and commiſſioned by him as his Miniſterial Deputy to hear, and judge, and abſolve you.

IV.

That the Manner of your Confeſſio be in an humble poſture on your knee as being made to God rather than ma and for the Matter of it, let it be seve and ſerious; but yet ſo as it may b without any inordinate Anxiety an unneceſſary ſcruples, which ſerve onl to entangle the Soul, and inſtead of ſe ting you free, (which is the benefit to looked for by Confeſſion) perplex yo the more.

V.

That for the frequency of doing thi you are to conſult with your own nece ſities: and as your Phyſician is not ſe for upon every ſmall diſtemper, whi your own care may rectifie; ſo neith are you obliged upon every failing to b over-ſcrupulous, or to think it a poi of Neceſſity preſently to confeſs it: Fo the Confeſſor cannot be always preſen but your God is, to whom if you appl your ſelf with Prayers and Penitence confeſſing in his ears alone whatever yo have done amiſs, and ſtedfaſtly believin that through the merits of your Saviou

the

they ſhall never be imputed to you, you may be confident that your Abſolution is at that time ſealed in Heaven, but the comfortable declaration of it you are to look for from the Prieſt.

Advice concerning Devout Receiving the Holy and Bleſſed Sacrament.

I.

YOU are firſt to conſider ſeriouſly the Infinite love of your Saviour, who not only offered himſelf for you as a Sacrifice upon the Croſs, but that this might never be forgotten by you, left the bleſſed memory of it in his holy Sacrament, which as often as you devoutly and faithfully receive, you are effectually made Partaker of all the merits of his precious Death and Paſſion.

II.

That for the frequency of doing this (if your own Conſcience doth not ſpeak home to you) you refer your ſelf to your Spiritual Guide, who knowing the Tem-

per of your Soul, and how you ſtan diſpoſed, may beſt direct you. Only ſhall add this, that the oftener you ap ply your ſelf to do it, your life will b the purer, your heart the chearfuller and the better arm'd againſt all Tem ptations.

III.

That three times in the year at leaſt eſpecially on thoſe ſolemn Feſtivals ob ſerved by all Chriſtians, who have no utterly caſt off Obedience to the Church and order in their Devotions, you la aſide all excuſes, and every Sin that the beſets you, and ſeriouſly prepare you ſelf for ſo great a Bleſſing.

IV.

That as ſoon as you awake that Morn ing, (and the ſooner you awake the bet ter ſign it is that your mind is ſet upon it) you rouſe your ſelf up with a fervent expectation of Receiving that day the Bread that came from Heaven, which whoſoever is rightly partaker of ſhall not periſh, but have life everlaſting.

V.

As for the precedent days of Prepa ration,

ration, how many they ſhould be, or how they would be imployed, you are to refer your ſelf to your Guide, who may adviſe you not to be over-ſcrupulous of the Time, (for the Primitive Chriſtians communicated every day;) and if your life be innocent from great offences, your Preparation need not be long. Only be ſure you bring with you Faith and Charity, clean hands and a penitent heart: which if you do, be confident the Maſter of the Feaſt will not find fault with you for want of a Wedding-garment.

VI.

That upon the bleſſed day of your Receiving you do more vigorouſly prepare your ſelf by lifting up your Heart and Hands to God, and offering up your private Prayers, (fitted for that purpoſe with all poſſible Devotion.) And that being done, you may compoſe your ſelf in quiet and in ſilence till the time of the Morning Sacrifice be come; when being called to a more Publick Oratory, you may be the fitter to go with an humble Confidence to meet your Saviour, and with that Ardour and Affection as a chaſte Virgin goes to a holy Marriage.

VII.

That during the celebration of this Holy Sacrament you attend earneſtly to what is done by the Prieſt. When he breaks the Bread, imagine to your ſelf that you ſee the Body of your dear Saviour torn and crucified, and when he pours out the Wine, conſider that his Blood was thus poured out upon the Altar of the Croſs: and laſt of all, when he that conſecrates, ſhall ſtand before you, ready in particular to apply it, you may then think that you ſee Chriſt himſelf reaching out his own Body and Blood to you, to feed your Soul unto Eternal Life.

VIII.

That farther you are really to believe the words as they are ſpoken, *This is my Body*, *This is my Blood*; and not to doubt, but that it is effectually made good to you in the Receiving, without any diſpute at all, or ſcrupulous inquiring into the manner of it, which neither Chriſt hath revealed, and neither Men nor Angels are able to pry into.

IX. That

IX.

That the Celebration of these Holy Mysteries being ended, you are to retire with all Thankfulness of heart for having been admitted to that Heavenly Feast, wherein your Saviour, who gave himself for you on the Cross, hath now more particularly given himself to you in the Sacrament, never to depart from you, unless you again wilfully offend him; which you are the more earnestly to beware, lest by frequent Relapses the Sacrament it self prove not only useless, but dangerous to you, & your latter end prove worse than your beginning.

Advice concerning Fasting.

I.

YOU are to consider Fasting either as a Duty enjoined by the Church or as a voluntary undertaking of your own. Your Obedience is required to the former in every particular as far as it is enjoyned, unless the want of Health or some other Accidents may unavoidably hinder you, wherein not only the Bi-

ſhop may diſpenſe with you, but he th
hath the charge of your Soul, eſpecial
if the Neceſſity be evident.

II.

Beſides the ordinary Faſts preſcribe
by the Church, you are adviſed to ſe
aſide ſome Day, either Weekly or (a
leaſt) Monthly, wherein you ma
mourn in private, not only for you
own ſins and perſonal calamities, bu
for thoſe publick Judgments now falle
on the whole Church and Nation, an
thoſe crying ſins which have occaſione
them; offering up your earneſt prayer
toGod for the removing of them,which,
when they come from a mortified Body
and a contrite Heart, are ſuch a Sacri-
fice that God, (who deceives no man)
being true to his Promiſes, cannot poſ-
ſibly deſpiſe.

III.

That the Faſt for the time deſigned
be ſuch as may in ſome meaſure be af-
flictive to you,abſtaining totally that day
from all manner of food, if the condi-
tion of your health will bear it,or if that
cannot be, that you be ſo moderate in
your

your feeding, that it may appear that you rather ſerve your Neceſſities in eating than ſatisfie your Appetite.

IV.

That you imploy this Day (or ſuch a part of it (at leaſt) as you may keep free to your ſelf) as a Retreat from the world, the buſineſs and the pleaſures of it, that ſo you may with the more freedom make up the Accounts between God and your own Soul, and by Prayer and Penitence reconcile your ſelf to him; for without this, Faſting is of no uſe.

Expreſſions of Humliation preparatory to the following Devotions.

RIghteouſneſs, O Lord, belongs unto thee; but unto me confuſion of face, the vaineſt, the vileſt, the ſinfulleſt of all the children of men.

Lord, I am vile in mine own eyes, and I will be yet more vile, becauſe my ſins have made me vile in thine.

I am not worthy of the Air I breath, of the Earth I tread upon, or of the Sun that ſhines upon me; much leſs worthy to lift up either hands or eyes to Heaven.

For thou haſt ſaid that no unclean thing ſhall come within thy ſight: and how then ſhall I appear, who am ſo miſerably defiled?

If the Man according to thine own heart could ſay that he was a Worm, and no Man, O what am I?

If *Abraham*, who had the honour to be called thy Friend, could ſay that he was but Duſt and Aſhes, O what am I?

O my God, thou madeſt me of nothing: and thou ſeeſt how I have ſpoiled this work of thine, for I have made my ſelf worſe than nothing.

For I am ſtill in my Sins, and what to do I know not.

Acts

Acts of Reſolution to ſecond this Humiliation.

But this I will do;

I Will confeſs my wickedneſs, and be ſorry for my ſins.

I will ſtand aloof with the *Publican*, and ſmite my breaſt, and ſay, Lord, be merciful to me a ſinner.

I will return with the Prodigal, and ſay, Father, I am not worthy to be called thy Child; make me as one of thine hired Servants.

I will not ſuffer mine eyes to ſleep, nor mine eye-lids to ſlumber, till I have by the mediation of thy dear Son obtained my pardon.

And what ſhall I ſay more? I will pour out my Prayers in the bitterneſs of my Spirit; and if my dry Eyes want Tears, I will call unto my Heart for Tears of Blood, wherewith I may ſupply them.

And

And therefore now, Lord, call my ſins to my remembrance: and when thou haſt done ſo, blot them out of thy remembrance, and pardon me.

A Litany of Confeſſion to be made uſe of by the Penitent Soul that finds it ſelf burthened with a true ſenſe of Sin.

I.

WO, Wo unto me, O God, that being a Creature of thine, and made by thee capable of enjoying everlaſting felicity, I have lived ſo wickedly and lewdly, that, unleſs thy mercy prevent it, I ſhall utterly forfeit the very End of my Creation.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent. I am utterly aſhamed of it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

II. Wo,

II.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that I have trifled away ſo many of my Youngeſt days without knowing thee, or taking any notice of thoſe ſtrict duties which I did owe unto thee; that I was ſo long a Child in all things, excepting Innocence, and that only by an over-haſty Spring of early Wickedneſs I was more than a Child.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I Accuſe, and Judge, and Condemn my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

III.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that as I grew up, the ſeeds of Corruption which I brought with me into the world grew up along with me, and by inſenſible degrees (which I obſerved not) Pride and Folly and Luſt took poſſeſſion of me, and Sin hath reigned in my mortal Body.

But I repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am infinitely confounded at it.

Lord,

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

IV.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that being waſhed in the Waters of Baptiſm from the guilt of that Original Corruption which I brought with me into the World, I have ſince that time ſo many ways actually defiled my ſelf, that I can no longer pretend by any former contract with thee, that I am either a Child of thine, a member of thy Chriſt, or an heir of the Kingdom of Heaven.

But I repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am utterly confounded at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

V.

Wo unto me, O God, that having been received into the Boſom of thy Church, (which ſo many millions of Souls have not had the happineſs to be) I have ingratefully diſhonoured thy holy Faith by an unholy Life; and having ſo often confeſſed thee with my tongue, I have denied thee in my life and actions.

But

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I Accuſe, and Judge, and Condemn my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

VI.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that having abjured the Devil and all his works, and given up my name to Chriſt to fight under the Banner of his Croſs, I have on the contrary treacherouſly complied with his Enemy in many things, and ſhall be found (I fear) to have been more diligent in ſerving him, than I have been in ſerving thee.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am confounded and aſtoniſhed at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

VII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that being obliged by that high calling of being a Chriſtian, to renounce the Pomps and Vanities of the World, I have ſo infinitely failed in this, that I have doted on

on nothing more: for those very Vanities have been my Idols, and my seduced Heart hath gone a Whoring after them.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am ashamed and confounded at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

VIII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that being farther bound by that most Solemn Vow, utterly to forsake the sinful Lusts of the Flesh, I have, instead of forsaking them pursued and hunted after them, and when other temptations have failed, I have been apt enough to kindle my own Fire, and to be a Tempter to my self.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor my self for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

IX.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that knowing thy revealed Will to be the Law to which I was bound in all obedience to sub-

ſubmit my ſelf, I like an inſolent Rebel, have not only ſet up my own Will, in oppoſition to thine, but many times preferred it before thine, and have liſtned more to the falſe Oracles of Fleſh and Blood than to all thy Holy Commandments.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I Accuſe, and Judge, and Condemn my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

X.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that being made according to thine Image, (the greateſt honour that could be done thy Creature) I have daſhed ſo many blurs and ſpots and foul ſins upon it, ſo defaced all the lines and features of it, that, unleſs the Holy Spirit pleaſe to renew that Image in me again, I tremble to think what I muſt one day hear, Depart from me, I know you not.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am aſhamed and confounded at it.

Lord,

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XI.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that having received a Rational Soul from thee, to be a Moral Light and guide unto my actions, I have been so brutish as to follow my sensual appetite instead of it, and have made no farther use of Reason than to find out vain excuses to cozen my own Soul into all the by-ways of Sin and Errour.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent. I accuse, and Judge, and Condemn my self for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that being endowed with Memory to serve as a Magazine to treasure up thy Precepts and holy Counsels in, I have stuft it so miserably full with the Idea's of former Vanities and Sin, that I have left no room for thee at all.

But

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I infinitely condemn my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XIII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that having received a heart from thee to be the ſeat of clean and holy affections, and the only Temple for thy holy Spirit to dwell in, I have ſo unworthily abuſed and altered the property of it, that it is now become a Den of Thieves, and an unhandſome receptacle of all uncleanneſs.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XIV.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that my wretched Heart being corrupted, my Imagination hath run wildly after with a ſwarm of vain and ſinful Thoughts, which like importunate Flies, being driven away light again and again upon my diſtracted Soul, and intermingle with the beſt of my Devotions. *But*

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am infinitely troubled and grieved for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XV.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that mine Eyes, being greedy after Vanity, have been upon all occasions as open windows to let in Sin; but when by the same way they should have issued out Penitential Tears, to wash away the stains those Sins had made, there have been no passage found for them.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am inwardly grieved and deplore myself for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XVI.

Wo, Wo unto me, O my God, that, for the entertaining of vain conversation, I have left mine ears too often open to light and vain and sinful discourses, and in all my inquiries have hearkned more to what the world saith abroad, than

than to what thy holy Spirit and my own Conſcience ſaith within me.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I Accuſe, and Judge, and Condemn my ſelf for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XVII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that I have not reſolved, with thy Servant *David*, to take care of my ways, that I offend not in my tongue, but have many times vainly and inconſiderately let it looſe, and, either to pleaſe the Company or my ſelf, I have ſpoken words which might unhappily prove occaſions of ſin both to them and me, without regard, or remembring how great Flames ſuch little ſparks might kindle.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I do infinitely condemn my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XVIII.

Wo, Wo unto me, G God, that all the parts and faculties of my Soul and Body

Body have been abuſed, and have not ſerved the Laws of their Creator, but have ſo eagerly and conſtantly purſued the corrupt deſires of a ſeduced Heart, that I have cauſe to fear that either my whole life may be looked upon as one continued ſin, or at leaſt as having admitted ſo few inconſiderable Pauſes, that if thou ſhouldeſt enter into ſtrict Judgment with me, I ſhould not have the confidence to ſay when, or where, or wherein I have been innocent.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent. I am confounded and aſtoniſhed at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XIX.

Wo unto me, O God, that I have wretchedly failed even in my beſt endeavours, that I have been cold in my Devotions, weary of my Prayers, inconſtant to good purpoſes, dull and heavy in the way to Heaven, but quick and active in all the ways of ſin, having made it the whole buſineſs of my life, rather to ſeem to be Religious, than really to be ſo.

But

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I Accuſe, and Judge, and Condemn my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XX.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that I have not waſhed mine hands in Innocency, when I have gone unto thine Altar, nor made mine heart ready to receive the bread that came from Heaven, but have failed in my Preparations, and have not ſufficiently conſidered either mine own unworthineſs, or the high ſecrets of ſo great a Myſtery.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am grieved and troubled at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XXI.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that having ſo often received thoſe ineſtimable Pledges of thy love, the precious Body and Blood of thy dear Son in the Holy Sacrament, I have been ſo unwary as to admit

admit my former ſins under the ſame roof with thee, and have unhappily done what lay in me to drive thee from me.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am infinitely aſhamed at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XXII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that my Repentance, the only plank left me in the Shipwrack of my Soul, hath been ſo weak, ſo ſlight, and ſo unſteady, that every ſmall blaſt of a new Temptation hath been able to drive me from it, and by frequent Relapſes into ſin, gives me cauſe enough to repent, even of my vain repentance.

But I Repent again, O God, again I Repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor my ſelf for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XXIII.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that having

ving received my Life and Being and Preſervation from thee, with ſo many advantages to have made me happy in this world, and bleſſed in the next, I have been ſo abominably unthankful, that I have caſt all theſe thy Bleſſings behind me, and returned thee nothing back for all thy favours, but affronts, and injuries, and ſins.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am confounded and aſtoniſhed at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XXIV.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that being Redeemed by the Death and Paſſion of thy dear and only Son, I have not laid his bitter Agonies to heart, nor made right uſe of the precious Ranſom which was laid down for me: That I have not yet ſued out my pardon with ſuch Penitent Tears as thou requireſt, nor laid hold of the benefits of it by a lively Faith; but have choſen rather ſtupidly to continue in my Sins, and to neglect the Blood of the Covenant as an unholy thing.

But I Repent, O my God, I Repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor my self for it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XXV.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that thy Holy Spirit I have grieved, thy Counsels I have rejected, thy Motions I have quenched, and have entertained the Lusts and Vanities of this life with far more earnest and passionate affections than all thy Holy Inspirations.

But I repent, O my God, I Repent.
I am utterly ashamed and confounded at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.

XXVI.

Wo, Wo unto me, O God, that having thus far opened my guilty heart before thee, I have left so many Sins behind, that I cannot number them; some that I have really forgot, some that I would forget, if my Conscience would give me leave; Sins known, that I cannot

not conceal, and ſins ſecret, ſuch as I have taken ſo much care to hide from others, that they are now become hidden from my ſelf.

But whatſoever they are, or whereſoever they are regiſtred, whether in my own Conſcience or in any other Record, that may be proved againſt me in the day of Judgment,

I call the whole court of Heaven to witneſs,
That I do ſadly Repent my ſelf of them all;
That I do abhor my ſelf for them all;
That I reſolve ſtedfaſtly to renounce them all.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a Sinner.
Amen. Amen.

The Penitent Soul having made this or the like Confeſſion, prepares and ſtirs up it ſelf to true Contrition.

WHat ſhall I ſay more unto thee, O thou that art the Judge of the

whole Earth? or what ſhall I do more? I have ranſacked my breaſt and laid it open; I have ſpread it before thee, as *Hezekiah* the blaſpheming Letter of his Enemy. I do not deſire that there ſhould be ſo much as any fold, or pleight, or corner of it hidden from thee.

Or if this be not enough to tranſact this great buſineſs of my Soul between me and thee alone, and that poſſibly I may flatter my ſelf in the ſeveral acts of my intended Penitence, I am ready to go farther, and (to make my ſelf the more aſhamed of ſinning) with all humility to confeſs theſe ſins of mine to ſome of thoſe ſervants of thine, whom thou haſt placed between me and thee, and to whom alone under thee thou haſt ſo clearly given the power of Abſolution.

O deal with me then as thou didſt with thy Servant *David*, who no ſooner confeſſed his ſins, but thou forgaveſt him all his iniquities.

But are there not they who confeſs their ſins, and have the impudence to glory

glory in them, or at leaſt paſs them over without any act of real Contrition, or any remorſe at all?

But, O my God, (if my heart deceive me not) I am none of thoſe; for I can neither glory in my ſhame, nor can I be ſatisfied with my ſelf when I appear with dry eyes before thee.

After this Preparation theſe Expreſs Acts of Contrition may follow.

FOR I am grieved, O my God, I am grieved paſſionately, heartily grieved that ever I offended thee,

That I, the work of thy hands, have ſinned againſt thee my Maker.

That I, the price of thy Blood, have ſinned againſt thee my *Jeſus*, who hadſt ſo much love for me as to be content to die for me.

That I, the choſen Temple of thy

Holy Spirit, have ſinned againſt him who ſanctified me.

For this I grieve, and mourn, and my heart is wounded within me.

And having done all this, yet I have not done; for ſtill I am grieved: grieved that I can grieve no more, that my Head is not a continual Spring, and mine Eyes Fountains of Tears.

Wo is me, wretch as I am, that I who have been ſo eaſie, ſo forward, ſo eager to ſin, ſhould be ſo untoward, ſo heavy, ſo unable to repent.

Wo is me, that I ſhould be ſtill ſo drowſie, ſo dead aſleep in ſin, that I ſhould not be yet awake, and ſenſible of the condition I am in.

O that I had died before my unworthy Soul had given way to thoſe firſt ſins, which have drawn ſo foul a Train after them.

But, O my God, though I cannot wait on thee among the Innocent, yet deny

deny me not a room among the Penitent.

Remember, O my God, that though *Ahab* had ſold himſelf to work wickedneſs, yet becauſe he Prayed, and Faſted, and humbled himſelf before thee, thou hadſt ſo much regard even of this outward Penitence of his, as to promiſe not to bring the evil upon him in his days.

But, Lord, if my heart deceives me not, I do not only outwardly, and ſeemingly, but really and cordially Repent.

And therefore for the evil that I have deſerved, O my God, rather let the puniſhment light upon me in this world than in the next.

Rather let me perform the Penance of my Tears here, than reſerve it for that ſad time, when a whole Sea of Tears will do no good.

And having ſaid all this, if my Repentance be yet imperfect, (as I know it cannot but want many grains, if weighed in this juſt balance) let the bitter Sufferings of thy dear Son *Jeſus* be caſt

into the Scale, and then I ſhall not fea
if thou enter into Judgment with me.

But of my ſelf, O God, I am utterl
unable, and which way to ſatisfie the
I know not.

I dare not ſay ſo much as the Servan
in the Goſpel did, *Maſter, have pati-
ence with me, and I will pay thee all.* Bu
rather Maſter, have patience with me,
for I can pay thee nothing at all, unleſ
thy bounty be ſo great as to give it me
to pay thee.

I can Faſt from a meal ſometimes,
(though it be with much ado) and I
can Pray, though coldly enough; and if
the fit and qualm of my Devotion holds
out longer, I can ſtrain for a Tear or two
to ſprinkle upon my dry Devotions.

But ſhould I faſt my ſelf into Air and
Emptineſs, and weep my ſelf into Wa-
ter; ſhould I tear the skin from this ſin-
ful Fleſh of mine, I ſhould never be able
to ſatisfie for the leaſt of thoſe Millions
of Millions of ſins, which through the ſe-
veral moments of my life, either igno-
rantly

rantly or knowingly, weakly or wilfully, I have ſinned againſt thee.

What I have tranſgreſſed againſt others, I am not only ſorry for, but ready, as far as my power will reach, to ſatisfie. But for my ſins againſt thee, my God, I muſt lay my hand upon my mouth for ever, for I have nothing to return or anſwer.

But the comfort is, (and bleſſed ſhall be my Soul if rightly I lay hold on it) that it is thou, O my Bleſſed *Jeſu*, who haſt ſatisfied for me, one drop of whoſe blood is enough to ſatisfie for the ſins of a thouſand worlds.

And this being ſo, will thy offended Father be ſo rigorous as to require the ſame payment again? Eſpecially will he require it of me, a poor, a broken, and a bankrupt Sinner?

Canſt thou exact the utmoſt farthing of him who hath not a mite of his own to pay thee?

The Transition which the Penitent makes from the Acts of Contrition to the Acts of Resolution for amendment of life, without which all Sorrow for Sin is in vain.

BUT because by thy infinite Mercy, O my God, thou hast satisfied for me already, shall I therefore fold my Arms, and sit down and do nothing towards it? Or which is worse, shall I go? no. Shall I continue in my Sins that Grace may abound?

No, God forbid.

No, I here resolve rather to die the Death, than ever wilfully to sin against thee more.

I do here resolve utterly to avoid the temptations and approaches towards those former sins which have hitherto so miserably betrayed me.

I do

I do here resolve (thy holy Spirit assisting me) upon all the duties of a new life; to be hereafter more wary in my ways, and more constant to good resolutions, to love thee above all the pleasures and interests of this life, and sadly to consider what an infinite loser I should be, if to gain all that my corrupt heart desires I should lose thee:

If after all this I should be so miserably forgetful both of my self and thee, as shamefully to relapse into any of those sins which I have now repented of.

I do here once more resolve to abhor and loath my self for it, and not to let my Conscience sleep or admit of any rest, till I have with bitter tears and a sharp reiterated Repentance obtained my Pardon.

Having

Having thus far made his Reſolution, the Penitent betakes himſelf to Prayer.

AND now O thou great Searcher of all Hearts, who ſeeſt that I am of my ſelf weak and mutable, and no better than a Reed ſhaken with the wind, O ſhew thy ſtrength in my weakneſs: faſten and confirm me in theſe good purpoſes, and ſo bind them with Cords unto thine Altar, that I may never ſtart from thee more, or be any longer of that Herd, whoſe good reſolutions are as a dream in the night; or if they laſt longer, they are but as the next morning dew, and as ſoon vaniſh away.

O give me the Reſolution of thy Servant Joſhua; *I and my houſe will ſerve the Lord.*

O give me the heart of thy Servant David, *who ſo paſſionately makes his Proteſtation:*

I will

I will take no wicked thing in hand, I hate the ſins of unfaithfulneſs, there ſhall no ſuch cleave unto me.

I will walk in my houſe with a perfect heart.

I have ſworn, and am ſtedfaſtly purpoſed to keep thy righteous Judgements.

Lord, I am not able to think one of theſe good thoughts without thee, much leſs to reſolve upon them.

But I, who without thee am able to do nothing, may venture to ſay as thine Apoſtles did, that in thee I am able to do all things.

Lord, give me the ſtrength to do what thou requireſt, and then require of me what thou pleaſeſt.

Amen.

After

After these Resolutions the Penitent prepares himself with an humble Soul and bended knees to beg Pardon.

O The God of my life, and the unexhausted Fountain of Mercy which can never be drawn dry, I have now by the assistance of thy holy Spirit gone through (though with weak and trembling steps) the whole exercise of Repentance: for I have confessed my sins, and thou hast promised (upon my confession of them) not to impute them to me; I have gone one step farther, for I have repented of my sins, and thou hast promised again that upon my repentance thou wilt remember them no more; and because thy holy Word hath taught me that a new life is the only life of a true Repentance, I have this day in thy sight, and in the presence of all the Holy Angels that attend thee in the Conversion of a Sinner, made my firm resolution never to fall again into the sins which I have repented of.

And

And now what remains for a poor Penitent to do more, but humbly and earneſtly to beg thy Pardon?

The Penitent's Prayer.

O God the Father, who canſt not be thought ſo cruel as to make me only to deſtroy me,

Have mercy on me.

O God the Son, who knowing thy Fathers's Will, didſt make it thy buſineſs to come into the world to ſave me,

Have mercy on me.

O God the Holy Ghoſt, who to the ſame end didſt ſanctifie me in my Baptiſm, and haſt ſo often ſince breathed holy thoughts and motions on me,

Have mercy on me.

O Holy and Bleſſed and Glorious Trinity, whom in three Perſons I adore as my one and only true God,

Have mercy on me.

Hear me, O Lord.
Help me, O Lord.
Save me, or elſe I periſh.

Lord,

Lord, careſt thou not that I Periſh? Thou that wouldeſt have all men ſaved? Thou who wouldſt have none to periſh?

And wilt thou now ſhew thine anger againſt a Worm, againſt a Leaf, againſt a vapour that vaniſheth before thee?

O remember how ſhort my time is, and deliver not my Soul into the power of Hell.

For, alas! what profit is there in my Blood? or who ſhall ever give thee thanks in that bottomleſs pit?

No, let me live in thy ſight: let me live, O my God, that my Soul may praiſe thee.

Forget me as I have been diſobedient, provoking thee to anger; and regard me as I am diſtreſſed, crying out to thee for help.

Look not upon me as I am a Sinner; but conſider me as I am thy Creature.

A Sinner I am, I confeſs, a Sinner of no ordinary ſtrain; but let not this hinder thee, O my God, for upon ſuch ſinners thou getteſt the greateſt glory.

O remember for whoſe ſake it was that thou cameſt from the boſom of thy Father,

Father, and didſt let thy ſelf down ſo low as to be content to be born of thine own humble handmaid.

Remember for whom it was that thy tender body was Torn, and Scourged, & Crucified, and thy precious Blood ſhed.

Was it not for the ſins of the whole world? and ſhall I be ſo narrow hearted to my own Soul, or ſo injurious to thy Glory, as to think that in all this crowd, thou haſt particularly excepted me?

Or, which is as great a diſhonour to thee, can I poſſibly imagine that thou diedſt only for Sinners of a lower kind, and lefteſt ſuch as I am without remedy?

What had become then of him who filled *Jeruſalem* with blood? What of the noted Woman who had lived in a trade of Sin? Nay, what had become of thine own Diſciple who with Oaths and Curſes thrice denied thee?

O how eaſie is it for thee to forgive? for it is thy Nature.

How proper is it for thee to ſave? for it is thy Name.

How ſuitable is it to thy only end of coming into the World? for it is thy Buſineſs.

And when I conſider that I am the chief

chief of Sinners, may I not urge the Father, and say, Shall the very chief of thy busineſs be left undone?

Mercy, Mercy, good Lord.

I ask not of thee any longer the things of this world: neither Power, nor Honours, nor Riches, nor Pleaſures. No, my God, diſpoſe of them to whom thou pleaſeſt, ſo that thou giveſt me Mercy.

O that I could hear thee once ſay, as thou didſt to him in the Goſpel, *My Son, be of good chear, thy Sins are forgiven thee.*

How would my drooping Spirits revive at ſuch a ſound? and my now wounded Soul break forth into Hymns and Praiſes and Hallelujahs for a mercy ſo utterly undeſerved of me, and which the Angels which fell could never hear of?

But, O my weak Soul, what doſt thou fear? or what doſt thou ſcruple at? For thou art not yet in ſuch a deſperate condition, but thou mayſt expect that what was ſaid to him may poſſibly be ſaid to thee.

Nay, be confident (though it be with a mixture of fear and trembling) that if thou doſt not act the part of an Hypocrite all this while, thy Saviour ſtands ready

ready at the very doors of thy Heart, to breath the very ſame words in a heavenly whiſper to thee; *Be of good chear, thy Sins are forgiven thee.*

Return then unto thy reſt, O my Soul, for thy Sins are forgiven thee.

Only take this Counſel along with thee, *Sin no more, leſt a worſe thing fall unto thee.*

O that I could never ſin againſt thee more; never purpoſely, deliberately, wilfully ſin againſt thee more.

And for thoſe ſins of daily Incurſion, thoſe over-familiar corruptions of my nature, which thou haſt not yet given me ſtrength enough to conquer; Lord, either ſubdue them to me by degrees, or lay them not to my charge.

But wherein ſoever my Conſcience moſt accuſeth me, therein, O my God, be thou moſt merciful unto me.

Save me, O God, as a Brand ſnatched out of the Fire.

Receive me, O my Jeſu, *as a Sheep that hath wandred, but is now returned to the great Shepherd and Biſhop of my Soul.*

The

The Jubilee of the Penitent Soul after the ſenſe of Pardon obtained.

REjoice over me, O God the Father that this thy Child was loſt, but is found, was dead, but is alive again.

Rejoice over me, O God the Son that thy loud Cries and tears, and bitter Agonies which for my ſake thou endureſt upon the Croſs, were not ſo unhappily loſt, as to be caſt away in vain upon me.

Rejoice over me, O God the Holy Ghoſt, that thy ſo many ſecret and powerful touches have at laſt got the upper hand of me.

Rejoice over me, O ye holy Angels, a great part of whoſe Miniſtry it is, to rejoice at the Converſion of a Sinner.

Rejoice over thy ſelf, O my Soul, that thou haſt received ſo much grace from Heaven this day, as ſadly to confeſs thy Sins, ſeriouſly to repent of them, & ſtedfaſtly to reſolve never to be guilty more of ſo much brutiſhneſs, as to be likened to the Dog that returns to his Vomit, or to the Swine wallowing in the Mire.

The

The Penitent cloſeth all with this ſhort Prayer.

LET this day, O my God, be noted in thy book.

Do not thou forget my Prayers, nor ſuffer me to forget my Reſolutions.

For though I am weak, though I am unworthy, though I am unprofitable, yet I am thy Servant.

And here upon my bended Knees I humbly beg of thee, that I may live and die ſo.

Lord hear my Prayers, and let my cry come unto thee.

Lord, pardon my Prayers, and let not my coldneſs and wandrings, and infinite unworthineſs turn them into ſin.

Lord, hear my Prayers, and let my cry come unto thee.

Amen. Amen.

FESTI-

FESTIVAL HYMNS

Celebrating the Myſteries and chief Feſtivals of the Year, according to the manner of the Ancient Church: fitted to the fancy and devotion of the younger and pious perſons.

Apt for memory, and to be joined to their other Prayers.

Hymns for Advent, or the Weeks immediately before the Birth of our Bleſſed Saviour.

I.

WHen, Lord, O when ſhall we
Our Dear Salvation ſee?
Ariſe, ariſe,
Our fainting eyes
Have

Have long'd all night, and 'twas a long
Man never yet could say (one too.
He saw more than one day,
One day of *Eden*'s seven: breath
The guilty hour there blasted with the
Of sin and death
Hath ever since worn a nocturnal hue.
But thou hast given us hopes that we
At length another day shall see,
Wherein each vile neglected place
Gilt with the aspect of thy face,
Shal be like that, the porch & gate of hea-
How long, dear God, how long! (ven
See how the Nations throng:
All humane kind,
Knit and combin'd
Into one body, look for thee their Head.
Pity our multitude.
Lord, we are vile and rude,
Headless and senseless, without thee.
Of all things but the want of thy blest face
O haste apace,
And thy bright self to this our body wed,
That, through the influx of thy power,
Each part that erst confusion were
May put on order and appear
Spruce as the childhood of the year,
When thou to it shalt so united be.

Amen.

Th

The Second Hymn for Advent; *or Christ's coming to* Jerusalem *in triumph.*

LOrd, come away,
Why dost thou stay?
Thy road is ready, and thy paths made straight
With longing expectation wait
The consecration of thy beauteous feet.
Ride on triumphantly, behold we lay
Our lusts and proud wills in thy way.
Hosanna! welcome to our hearts. Lord, here
Thou hast a Temple too, and full as dear
As that of *Sion*, and as full of sin.
Nothing but Thieves and robbers dwell therein.
Enter, and chase them forth, and cleanse the floor;
Crucifie them, that they may never more
Profane that holy place,
Where thou hast chose to set thy face.
And then, if our stiff tongues shall be
Mute in the praises of thy Deity,
The stones out of the Temple wall
Shall cry aloud and call
Hosannah! and thy glorious footsteps greet.
Amen.

Hymns for Christmas-day

I.

MYsterious truth! that the self-same should be
A Lamb, a Shepherd, and a Lion too!
Yet such was he
Whom first the shepherds knew,
When they themselves became
Sheep to the Shepherd-Lamb.
Shepherd of Men and Angels, Lamb of God,
Lion of *Judah*, by these titles keep
The Wolf from thy indangered Sheep.
Bring all the world unto thy Fold;
Let Jews and Gentiles hither come
In numbers great that can't be told,
And call thy Lambs, that wander, home.
Glory be to God on high,
All glories be to th'glorious deity.

The second Hymn; being a Dialogue between three Shepherds.

1. WHere is this Blessed Babe
That hath made
All the world so full of joy
And expectation;

That glorious boy
That Crowns each Nation
With a triumphant wreath of bleſſedneſs?

2. Where ſhould he be but in the throng,
And among
His Angel-Miniſters, that ſing
And take wing
Juſt as may Echo to his Voice,
And rejoyce,
When wing and tongue and all
May ſo procure their happineſs?

3. But he hath other Waiters now,
A poor Cow,
An Ox and Mule ſtand and behold,
And wonder,
That a ſtable ſhould enfold
Him that can thunder.

Chorus. O what a gracious God have we!
How good! How great! even as our miſery.

The third Hymn: Of Chriſt's Birth in an Inn.

THE bleſſed Virgin travail'd without pain
And lodged in an Inn,
A glorious Star the ſign,

But of a greater guest than ever came that way
For there he lay
That is the God of night and Day,
And over all the pow'rs of Heaven doth reig
It was the time of great *Augustus* Tax,
And then he comes
That pays all sums,
Even the whole price of lost Humanity.
And sets us free
From the ungodly Empirie
Of Sin, and of Satan, and of Death.
O make our hearts, blest God, thy lodging-plac
And in our brest
Be pleas'd to rest;
For thou lov'st Temples better than an Inn:
And cause that sin
May not profane the Deity within,
And sully o're the Ornaments of Grace.

Am

A Hymn for Christmas-day.

AWake, my Soul, and come away,
Put on thy best array,
Lest if thou longer stay,
Thou lose some minutes of so blest a day.

G

Go run and bid good morrow to the Sun,
Welcome his safe return to Capricorn,
And that great morn
Wherein a God was born,
Whose Story none can tell
But he whose every word's a Miracle.

To day Almightiness grew weak,
The World it self was mute,
And could not speak.

That *Jacob*'s Star which made the Sun
To dazzle, if he durst look on,
Now mantled o're in *Bethlehem*'s night
Borrow'd a Star to shew him light.
He that begirt each Zone,
To whom both Poles are one,
Who grasp'd the Zodiack in's hand,
And made it move or stand,
Is now by Nature Man,
By stature but a span;
Eternity is now grown short,
A King is born without a Court;
The Water thirsts, the Fountain's dry,
And Life, being born, made apt to die.

Chorus. Then let our praises emulate and vie
With his Humility:

Since he's exil'd from skies,
That we might riſe
From low eſtate of men,
Let's ſing him up again.
Each man winde up's heart
To bear a part
In that Angelick Quire; and ſhow
His glory high, as he was low.
Let's ſing tow'rds men good will and Charity,
Peace upon Earth, Glory to God on high.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

A Hymn upon St. John's *day.*

THis day
We ſing
The friend of our eternal King,
Who in his boſome lay,
And kept the Keys
Of his profound and glorious Myſteries:
Which to the world diſpenſed by his hand,
Made it ſtand
Fix'd in amazement to behold that light,
Which came
From the throne of the Lamb,
To invite
Our wretched eyes (which nothing elſe could ſee
But fire and ſword, hunger and miſerie)
T' an-

T' anticipate by their raviſh't ſight
The beauty of Celeſtial delight.
Myſterious God, regard me when I pray:
And when this load of clay
Shall fall away,
O let thy gracious hand conduct me up,
Where on the Lamb's rich viands I may ſup;
And in this laſt ſupper I
May with thy friend in thy ſweet boſome lie
For ever in Eternity.
Allelujah.

Upon the day of the holy Innocents.

MOurnful *Judah* ſhreeks and cries
At the obſequies
Of their Babes, that cry
More that they loſe the paps, than that they die;
He that came with life to all
Brings the Babes a funeral,
To redeem from ſlaughter him
Who did redeem us all from ſin.
They like himſelf went ſpotleſs hence,
A ſacrifice to Innocence,
Which now does ride
Trampling upon *Herod*'s pride,
Paſſing from their fontinels of clay
To heaven a milky and a bloody way.

All their tears and groans are dead,
And they to rest and glory fled.
Lord, who wert pleas'd so many Babes should fall,
Whilst each sword hop'd, that every of the all
Was the desired King, make us to be
In Innocence like them, in Glory thee.

Amen.

Upon the Epiphany, and the three Wise men of the East coming to worship Jesus.

A Comet dangling in the Air
Presag'd the ruin both of Death and Sin,
And told the wise men of a King,
The King of Glory, and the Sun
Of Righteousness, who then begun
To draw towards that blessed Hemisphere.
They from the farthest East this new
And unknown light pursue,
Till they appear
In this blest Infant-King's propitious eye,
And pay their homage to his Royalty.
Persia might then the rising Sun adore,
It was Idolatry no more.
Great God they gave to thee

Myrrhe,

Myrrhe, Frankincense and Gold:
But, Lord, with what shall we
Present our selves before thy Majesty,
Whom thou redeem'dst when we were sold?
W' have nothing but our selves, and scarce that neither;
Vile dirt and clay:
Yet it is soft, and may
Impression take,
Accept it, Lord, and say, this thou hadst rather;
Stamp it, and on this sordid metal make
Thy holy image, and it shall out-shine
The beauty of the golden Mine.

Amen.

A Meditation of the Four last things, { Death, Judgment, Heaven, Hell. } *For the time of* Lent *especially.*

A Meditation of Death.

DEath, the old Serpent's Son,
Thou hadst a sting once like thy Sire:
That carried Hell and ever-burning fire:
But those black days are done;
Thy foolish spite buried thy sting

In the profound and wide
Wound of our Saviour's side.
And now thou art become a tame and harmless thing,
A thing we dare not fear
Since we hear
That our triumphant God, to punish thee
For the affront thou didst him on the Tree,
Hath snatcht the Keys of Hell out of thy hand,
And made thee stand
A Porter to the gate of Life, thy mortal enemy.
O thou who art that Gate, command that he
May, when we die,
And thither flee,
Let us into the Courts of Heaven through thee.
Allelujah.

The Prayer.

MY Soul doth pant tow'rds thee,
My God, Source of eternal life:
Flesh fights with me;
Oh end the strife,
And part us, that in peace I may
Unclay
My wearied spirit, and take
My flight to thy eternal Spring,
Where, for his sake
Who is my King,
I may wash all my tears away
That day.

Thou

Thou Conquerour of Death
Glorious Triumpher o're the Grave,
Whoſe holy breath
Was ſpent to ſave
Loſt Mankind, make me to be ſtyl'd
Thy Child;
And take me when I die,
And go unto my duſt, my Soul
Above the sky
With Saints enrol,
That in thy arms for ever I
May lie. *Amen.*

Of the Day of Judgment.

GReat Judge of all, how we vile wretches
Our guilty bones do ake, (quake!
Our marrow freezes, when we think
Of the conſuming fire
Of thine ire;
And horrid phials thou ſhalt make
The wicked drink,
When thou the wine-preſs of thy wrath ſhalt tread
With feet of lead.
Sinful, rebellious clay! what unknown place
Shall hide it from thy face?
When earth ſhall vaniſh from thy ſight,

The Heavens, that never err'd,
But obſerv'd
Thy laws, ſhall from thy preſence take their flight,
And, kill'd with glory, their bright eyes ſtark dead
Start from their head;
Lord, how ſhall we,
Thy enemies, endure to ſee
So bright, ſo killing Majeſty?
Mercy, dear Saviour: thy Judgment-ſeat
We dare not, Lord, intreat;
We are condemn'd already there.
Mercy: vouchſafe one look
Of life. Lord, we can read thy *ſaving Jeſus* here,
And in his Name our own Salvation ſee.
Lord, ſet us free;
The book of ſin
Is croſs'd within,
Our debts are paid by thee.

Mercy.

Of Heaven.

O Beauteous God, uncircumſcribed Treaſure
Of an eternal pleaſure,
Thy Throne is ſeated far
Above the higheſt Star,
Where thou prepar'ſt a glorious place
Within the brightneſs of thy face

For

For every spirit
To inherit,
That builds his hopes on thy merit,
And loves thee with an holy Charity.
What ravish't heart, Seraphick tongue or eyes,
Clear as the morning's rise,
Can speak, or think, or see
That bright Eternity,
Where the great King's transparent Throne
Is of an intire Jasper stone;
There the eye
O'th' Chrysolite,
And a skie
Of Diamonds, Rubies, Chrysoprase,
And above all the holy Face
Makes an Eternal Clarity.
When thou thy Jewels up dost bind, that day
Remember us, we pray;
That where the Beryll lies
And the Crystal 'bove the skies,
There thou may'st appoint us place
Within the brightness of thy face,
And our Soul
In the scroul
Of life and blisfulness enrowl,
That we may praise thee to Eternity.

Allelujah.

Of

Of Hell.

HOrrid darkneſs, ſad and ſore,
And an eternal Night,
Groans and ſhrieks, and thouſand more
In the want of glorious light;
Every corner hath a Snake
In the accurſed lake.
Seas of fire, beds of ſnow
Are the beſt delights below;
A Viper from the fire
Is his hire
That knows not moments from Eternity.
Glorious God of Day and Night,
Spring of Eternal Light,
Allelujahs, Hymns and Pſalms
And Coronets of Palms
Fill thy people evermore.
O mighty God
Let not thy bruiſing rod
Cruſh our loins with an eternal preſſure;
O let thy mercy be the meaſure:
For if thou keepeſt wrath in ſtore,
We all ſhall die,
And none be left to glorifie
Thy Name, and tell
How thou haſt ſav'd our Souls from Hell.
Mercy.

On

On the Conversion of St. Paul.

FUll of wrath, his threatning breath
Belching nought but chains and death,
Saul was arrested in his way
By a voice and a light,
That if a thousand days
Should join rays
To beautifie one day,
It would not shew so glorious and so bright.
On his amazed eyes it night did fling,
That day might break within;
And by those beams of Faith
Make him of a child of wrath
Become a vessel full of *glory*.
Lord, curb us in our dark and sinful way.
We humbly pray,
When we down horrid precipices run
With feet that thirst to be undone,
That this may be our *story*.
Alleluiah.

On the Purification of the Blessed Virgin.

PUre and spotless was the Maid
That to the Temple came,

A Pair

A pair of Turtle-doves she paid,
Although she brought the Lamb.
Pure and spotless though she were,
Her body chast and her Soul fair,
She to the Temple went
To be purified,
And try'd
That she was spotless and obedient.
O make us to follow so blest Precedent,
And purifie our Souls, for we
Are cloath'd with sin and misery.
For our Conception
One Imperfection,
And a continued state of sin,
Hath sullied all our faculties within.
We present our Souls to thee
Full of need and misery;
And for redemption a Lamb
The purest whitest that e're came
A Sacrifice to thee,
Even he that bled upon the Tree.

On Good-Friday.

THE Lamb is eaten, and is yet again
Preparing to be slain.
The cup is full and mixt,
And must be drunk:

Worm-

Wormwood and Gall
To this are draughts to beguile care withal.
Yet the Decree is fixt,
Doubled knees and groans and cries,
Prayers and sighs and flowing eyes
Could not intreat.
His sad Soul sunk
Under the heavy pressure of our sin,
The pains of Death and Hell
About him dwell.
His Fathers burning wrath did make
His very heart, like melting wax, to sweat
Rivers of blood
Through the pure strainer of his skin:
His boyling body stood
Bubling all o're,
As if the wretched whole were but one door
To let in pain and grief.
And turn out all relief.
O thou, who for our sake
Didst drink up
This bitter Cup,
Remember us, we pray,
In thy day,
When down
The strugling throats of wicked men
The dregs of thy just fury shall be thrown.
O then
Let thy unbounded mercy think
On

On us, for whom
Thou underwent'st this heavy doom,
And give us of the Well of Life to drink.
Amen.

On the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin.

A Winged Harbinger from bright Heaven flown
Bespeaks a lodging room
For the mighty King of Love,
The spotless structure of a Virgin-womb
O're-shadow'd with the wings of the blest Dove;
For he was travelling to earth,
But did desire to lay
By the way
That he might shift his cloaths, and be
A perfect man as well as we.
How good a God have we! who for our sake,
To save us from the burning lake,
Did change the order of Creation:
At first he made
Man like himself in his own Image; now,
In the more blessed reparation,
The Heavens bow,
Eternity took the measure of a span,
And said,

Let

Let us make our self like Man,
And not from Man the Woman take,
But from the Woman, Man.
Allelujah: we adore
His Name whose goodness hath no store.
Allelujah.

Easter-day.

WHat glorious light!
How bright a Sun after so sad a night
Does now begin to dawn! bless'd were those eyes
That did behold
This Sun when he did first unfold
His glorious beams, and now begin to rise.
It was the holy tender Sex
That saw the first ray:
Saint *Peter* and the other had the reflex,
The second glimpse o'th' day.
Innocence had the first, and he
That fled, and then did penance, next did see
The glorious Sun of Righteousness
In his new dress
Of triumph, immortality and bliss.
O dearest God preserve our Souls
In holy innocence;
Or if we do amiss,
Make

Make us to rise again to th' life of Grace,
That we may live with thee, and see thy glorious face,
The Crown of Holy Penitence.

Allelujah.

On the Day of Ascension.

HE is risen higher, not set:
Indeed a cloud
Did with his leave make bold to shrowd
The Sun of glory from Mount *Olivet*.
At Pentecost hee'l shew himself *again*,
When every ray shall be a tongue
To speak all comforts, and inspire
Our Souls with their cœlestial fire;
That we the Saints among
May sing and love and *reign*. *Amen.*

On the Feast of Pentecost, or Whitsunday.

TOngues of fire from Heaven descend
With a mighty rushing wind,
To blow it up and make
A living fire
Of heavenly Charity and pure desire,

Where

Where they their residence should take.
On the Apostles sacred heads they sit,
Who now like Beacons do [illegible] and tell
Th' invasion of the host of [illegible]
And give men warning to defend
Themselves from the inraged brunt of it.
Lord, let the flames of holy Charity
And all her gifts and graces slide
Into our hearts, and there abide;
That thus refined, we may soar above
With it unto the element of Love,
Even unto thee, dear Spirit,
And there eternal peace and rest inherit.

Amen.

Penitential Hymns.

I.

LOrd, I have sinn'd, and the black number
To such a dismal sum, (swells
That should my stony heart and eyes,
And this whole sinful trunk, a flood become,
And run to tears, their drops could not suffice
To count my score,
Much less to pay:
But thou, my God, hast blood in store,
And art the Patron of the poor.

Yet

Yet since the Balsame of thy blood,
Although it can, will do no good,
Unless the wounds be cleans'd with tears before;
Thou in whose sweet, but pensive, face
Laughter could never steal a place,
Teach but my heart and eyes
To melt away,
And then one drop of Balsame will suffice.

Amen.

II.

GReat God, and just! how canst thou see,
Dear God, our misery,
And not in mercy set us free?
Poor miserable man! how wert thou born,
Weak as the dewy jewels of the Morn,
Wrapt up in tender dust,
Guarded with sins and lust,
Who like Court-flatterers wait
To serve themselves in thy unhappy fate?
Wealth is a snare, and poverty brings in
Inlets for theft, paving the way for sin:
Each perfum'd vanity doth gently breath
Sin in thy Soul, and whispers it to death.
Our faults like ulcerated sores do go
O're the sound flesh, and do corrupt that too.
Lord, we are sick, spotted with sin
Thick as a crusty Leper's skin.

Like

Like *Naaman*, bid us wash, yet let it be
In streams of blood that flow from thee.
Then will we sing,
Touch'd by the heavenly Dove's bright wing,
Hallelujahs, Psalms and Praise,
To God the Lord of night and days;
Ever good, and ever just,
Ever high, who ever must
Thus be sung, is still the same:
Eternal praises crown his Name.

Amen.

A Prayer for Charity.

FUll of Mercy, full of Love,
Look upon us from above;
Thou who taught'st the blind man's night
To entertain a double light,
Thine and the day's, (and that thine too:)
The Lame away his Crutches threw:
The parched crust of Leprosie
Return'd unto its infancy;
The Dumb amazed was to hear
His own unchain'd tongue strike his ear:
Thy powerful mercy did even chase
The Devil from his usurp'd place,

Where

Where thou thy self ſhould'ſt dwell, not he.
O let thy love our pattern be:
Let thy Mercy teach one Brother
To forgive and love another;
That copying thy Mercy here
Thy goodneſs may hereafter rear
Our Souls unto thy glory, when
Our Duſt ſhall ceaſe to be with men.

Amen.

THE END.

THE CONTENTS Of the GUIDE to DEVOTION.

CREDENDA:

OR, what is to be Believed. A Short Catechiſm for the Inſtitution of young perſons in the Chriſtian Religion. pag. 1
An Expoſition of the Apoſtles Creed. p. 16

AGENDA:

Or, things to be done. The Diary, or a Rule to ſpend each day religiouſly. p. 43

VIA PACIS.

A ſhort Method of Peace and Holineſs. with a Manual of daily Prayers fitted to the days of the Week. p. 60

The Contents.

POSTULANDA:

Or, things to be prayed for. A form of Prayer, by way of Paraphraſe expounding the Lord's Prayer. p. 80

LITANIES

For All things and Perſons. p. 92
I. *For Pardon of Sins.* p. 93
II. *For Deliverance from Evils.* p. 95
III. *For gifts and graces.* p. 100
IV. *For all ſtates of Men and Women, eſpecially in the Chriſtian Church.* p. 104
A ſhort Prayer to be ſaid every Morning. p. 110.
A Prayer for the Evening. p. 112
A Prayer againſt Pride. p. 113
A Prayer againſt Covetouſneſs. p. 117
A Prayer againſt Luſt. p. 119
A Prayer againſt Gluttony and Drunkenneſs. p. 121
A Prayer againſt Envy. p. 123
A Prayer againſt Wrath and inordinate Anger p. 125
A Prayer againſt wearineſs in well-doing. p. 127
A Prayer to be ſaid by a Maiden, before ſhe

She enters into the state of Marriage. p. 129
A Prayer for a holy and a happy Death. p. 132

THE CONTENTS

Of the Guide for the PENITENT.

REmembrances concerning the Examination of your Conscience. p. 141
Advice concerning Confession. p 144
Advice concerning Devout Receiving the Holy and Blessed Sacrament p. 147
Advice concerning Fasting. p. 151
Expressions of Humiliation preparatory to the following Devotions. p. 153
Acts of resolution to second this Humiliation. p. 155
A Litany of Confession to be made use of by the Penitent Soul that finds it self burthened with a true sence of Sin. p. 156

The Penitent Soul having made this or the like Confeſſion, prepares and ſtirs up it ſelf to true Contrition. p. 171
After this Preparation theſe Expreſs Acts of Contrition may follow. p. 173
The Tranſition which the Penitent makes from the Acts of Contrition to the Acts of Reſolution for amendment of life, without which all ſorrow for Sin is in vain. p. 178
Having thus far made his Reſolution, the Penitent betakes himſelf to Prayer. p. 180
After theſe Reſolutions the Penitent prepares himſelf with an humble Soul and bended knees to beg Pardon. p. 182
The Penitents Prayer. p. 183
The Jubilee of the Penitent Soul after the ſenſe of Pardon obtained. p. 188
The Penitent cloſeth all with this ſhort Prayer. p. 189

FESTIVAL HYMNS.

Hymns for Advent, or the Weeks immediately before the Birth of our Bleſſed Saviour. p. 191
The ſecond Hymn for Advent; *or Chriſt's coming to* Jeruſalem *in triumph.* p. 193
Hymns for Chriſtmas-day. p. 194

The

The Contents.

The second Hymn; being a Dialogue between three Shepherds. p. 194
The third Hymn: Of Christ's Birth in an Inn. p 195
A Hymn for Christmas-day. p. 196
A Hymn upon St. John's *day* p. 198
Upon the day of the holy Innocents. p. 199
Upon the Epiphany, and the three Wise men of the East coming to worship Jesus. p. 200
A meditation of Death. p. 201
The Prayer. p. 202
Of the day of Judgment. p. 203
Of Heaven. p. 204
Of Hell. p. 206
On the conversion of St. Paul. p. 207
On the Purification of the Blessed Virgin. Ibid
On Good-Friday. p. 208
On the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin. p. 210
Easter-day. p. 211
On the Day of Ascension. p. 212
On the Feast of Pentecost, or Whitsunday. Ibid
Penitential Hymns. p. 213
A Prayer for Charity. p. 215

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